

DENNIS WATER DISTRICT

Board of Water Commissioners

Minutes of Meeting held

January 28, 2010

A meeting, having been duly posted, was held this date at the Thomas Martin Training Room, Dennis Police Department, 96 Bob Crowell Road, S Dennis. The meeting was called to order by Paul F. Prue, Chairman at 6:02 PM. Water Commissioners Charles F. Crowell (6:15 PM) and Peter L. McDowell were present along with the following District officials:

David Larkowski, Superintendent
Sheryl A. McMahon, Clerk & Treasurer

PUBLIC INFORMATION & COMMENT

Mr. McDowell reviewed his participation and attendance at the Massachusetts Municipal Conference last week.

Ms. McMahon confirmed the District Finance Committee will be meeting on February 4, 2010 to review the articles for the Special District Meeting scheduled for February 25, 2010.

Ms. McMahon reviewed some of the significant changes in the Open Meeting and Public Records Law that will take effect July 2010. She provided an outline that was distributed at the MMA conference.

Commissioner Crowell joined the meeting in progress at 6:15 PM.

CUSTOMER ISSUES: None

UPDATES:

Wind Energy – Mr. Larkowski reviewed the site visit that Commissioners Prue and McDowell undertook earlier in the month to the Falmouth wastewater treatment facility's windmill. The Wind Power Feasibility Study Request for Proposal was distributed and the pre-proposal meeting has been held. The bid opening is on Tuesday, February 2. To date no proposals have been received. There have been eight consultants responding with questions. He estimated twelve probable responders.

Special Legislation – Combined Election H1140 – Ms. McMahon advised that she has been in contact with Senator O'Leary's office and that the bill has gone to third reading. She does anticipate that there will be some amendment to the legislation as passed by the House because of the difference in the boundaries from the Town.

REVIEW DRAFT OF WARRANT FOR SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING

Ms. McMahon requested that the Board meet on Friday following the District Finance Committee meeting on February 4. Mr. McDowell suggested that they vote to accept the warrant and recommendations on February 4 and to also vote to sign the warrant individually at the Board members convenience. There was consensus that no additional Board meetings would be necessary to sign the warrant.

The Town of Dennis Board of Selectmen has requested that the Board of Water Commissioners appoint three members representing the District to the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Task Force for a three year term. On a motion made by Charles F. Crowell, and duly seconded, the Board ***UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to appoint David Larkowski, Sheryl McMahon and Peter McDowell to the CWMP Task Force.***

Mr. Larkowski and Ms. McMahon had distributed the proposed FY 2010 budget documents to the Board prior to their meeting. The proposed budget includes zero percent increases for all District personnel. Mr. Larkowski provided the rationale for adding a part-time person to the Administration staff in order to provide administrative support to the backflow prevention program. In addition, Mr. Larkowski proposed additional funding for overtime necessary to provide 14 weeks of weekend duty to inspect and provide daily oversight of the pumping and treatment facilities. The Board reviewed Operating and Maintenance, General Expenditures, Capital Expenditures and the Summary. Ms. McMahon reviewed the Revenue Budget and water rate structure. Based on the current budget projection there would be no change in the water rates for FY 2011. Ms. McMahon and Mr. Larkowski

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on Adoption of Chapter 32, Section 18 or Section 18A - Ms. McMahon reviewed the economic and actuarial benefits to the District and to the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group (of which the District belongs) of adopting Chapter 32, Section 18A versus Section 18. Section 18 would require all Medicare eligible retirees to enroll in Medicare not matter when they retired. If Section 18 is adopted, the District is required to pay an annual 10% penalty for each year the employee was not enrolled. Section 18A would require retirees who become Medicare eligible to enroll in Medicare. The District does provide a medi-gap plan so that once the retiree enrolls in Medicare Part B they are able to participate in a supplemental plan. She explained that the cost savings will be realized in the future due to less of an escalation in the premiums paid by the District because they will be required to enroll in Medicare. Mr. McDowell is interested in looking at the menu of plans and possibly narrowing the list to lower the budgeted cost to the District in the future. On a motion made by Charles F. Crowell, and duly seconded, the Board ***UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: that the District adopt Chapter 32, Section 18A and that it appear on the warrant for the Annual Meeting.***

Continued Discussion on Sixth Round of Samples for Mass. Estuaries Project (MEP) – Mr. McDowell did not believe that the Town's Water Quality Advisory Committee had the capacity to undertake the sixth sampling round for the MEP. On a motion made by Peter L. McDowell, and duly seconded, the Board ***UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: that the District Superintendent be authorized with his staff to continue, this year, the water testing utilizing the funds already appropriated.***

On a motion made Charles F. Crowell, and duly seconded, the Board ***UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adjourn at 7:00 PM.***

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl A McMahon, Treasurer