

DENNIS WATER DISTRICT

Minutes of the Board of Water Commissioners

March 25, 2010

A meeting, having been duly posted, was held this date at the Dennis Police Station, Martin Training Room, 90 Bob Crowell Rd., S Dennis. The meeting was scheduled as a joint meeting with the District Finance Committee. The meeting was called to order by Paul F. Prue, Chairman at 6:00 PM. Also in attendance were Charles F. Crowell and Peter L. McDowell.

Those in attendance were David Talbott, Greg Stone, James Plath and Peter J. Nyberg. Chairman Prue then turned the meeting over to District Finance Committee Chairman Talbott.

Also in attendance were David Larkowski, Superintendent and Sheryl McMahon, Treasurer.

Immediately following the adjournment of the Finance Committee meeting (7:48 PM) in which they reviewed and voted their recommendations for the FY 2011 Budget and other warrant articles.

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMENTS:

Mr. Larkowski announced that the District has begun the annual spring flushing program and that residents should avoid using water while the flushing is going on in their immediate area.

Ms. McMahon advised the Board that the Planning Board will be holding a hearing on the proposed amendments to the Wind Power bylaw on Monday, April 12 at 7:00 PM.

CUSTOMER ISSUES: None

Mr. Larkowski reviewed the article that was included in the current edition of "In the Main", a quarterly Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection publication, that highlighted the successful completion of the Iron and Manganese Treatment Plant construction project this past fall.

SPECIAL LEGISLATION UPDATE:

Ms. McMahon reported that the special legislation (House 1140) that will allow the District to include its annual election with the Town's has passed the State Legislature and is expected to be signed by the governor within the next week.

WIND POWER FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE:

The Superintendent advised that this study is underway. The consultants believe it is an exceptionally well-suited property for development of wind energy. He anticipates that they will be scheduling a site analysis report in about two to three weeks. The study will include the specific siting of multiple wind turbines for location and orientation. The study also includes the development of the economic suitability of one or more turbines. There was a short discussion on the possibility of Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative developing the wind power for the District. Mr. McDowell noted that the project would have to receive approval by the Town of Dennis Old Kings Highway Regional District Committee and he believes this to be a significant obstacle.

MINUTES

On a motion made by Charles F. Crowell, and duly seconded, the Board **UNANIMOULSY VOTED: to accept the minutes of 11/18/2009 as presented.**

On a motion made by Charles F. Crowell, and duly seconded, the Board **UNANIMOULSY VOTED: to accept the minutes of 12/17/2009 as presented.**

On a motion made by Charles F. Crowell, and duly seconded, the Board **UNANIMOULSY VOTED: to accept the minutes of 01/28/2010 with corrections**

Mr. Larkowski reviewed a recent request from AT & T to reduce their annual lease payment and the annual escalation percentage for their cellular antenna lease. The contract is currently in its thirteenth year. On a motion made by Peter L. McDowell, and duly seconded, the Board **UNANIMOULSY VOTED: to decline the request of AT & T for a reduction in their annual rental payments and the annual escalator for their cellular antenna leases on the Hokum Rock and Route 28 water tanks.**

Ms. McMahon discussed with the Board the possibility of releasing unencumbered funds from the Wastewater Studies (Acct.6500). She anticipates that there is an unencumbered balance of approximately \$60,000 that could be closed to the surplus at year-end. Mr. McDowell raised a number of issues. In particular, he would like to have a written legal opinion from counsel that indicates that the District has legal authority to proceed with its participation in the Massachusetts Estuaries Project. On a motion made by Peter L. McDowell, and duly seconded, the Board **UNANIMOULSY VOTED: to authorize the District Clerk to ensure that a suitable letter is written to District counsel with essential detail answering all of the questions related to the ability of the Dennis Water District to participate in wastewater activities relevant to the Massachusetts Estuaries Project.**

Mr. McDowell requested that the Board members have a reasonable time to review and comment on the Board's annual report. There was some confusion as to the budget summary report that appears in the District's Finance Committee budget report and the Board of Water Commissioners' Annual Report. Ms. McMahon expressed her concerns that for many years, the Commissioners had deferred the drafting of the annual report to Commissioner Prue. She recommended that who ever drafts the Commissioners' annual report then distributes that report to the rest of the Board and that the members meet formally to edit the report and vote a final copy for the Annual District Report. There was a consensus to have a draft compiled by the Clerk to be distributed among the Board members and then to meet at the call of the Chairman, review the draft and subsequently vote the Board of Water Commissioners Annual Report.

There being no further business before the Water Commissioners, on a motion made by Charles F. Crowell, and duly seconded, the Board **UNANIMOULSY VOTED: to adjourn at 8:40 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl A McMahon, Clerk