

Plainfield Water/Waste Water Commission

Meeting Minutes for December 19, 2016

Present: Mary Lane, Tim Phillips, Greg Chamberlin, Carol Smith, Jim Jamele

5:04 PM - Meeting called to order.

Agenda was approved with the decision to omit the budget discussion as we lack necessary information from the Selectboard.

Minutes for 11/21/2016 meeting were approved. Minutes for the 12/09/16 meeting have yet to be drafted.

Clerk's Financial Report

- Carole is concerned about the continued non-payments of bills. There was discussion about the consistency of the collections follow-up.

Discuss Water Line Replacement Project User Issue

- the Commission authorized Jim Jamele to tell Alana Norway that the system will pay for the damage to her property, but she needs to submit bids for repair to the Commission.

Chief Facility Operator's Report

- Greg gave EJ Prescott the bill for repairs at the Sayers residence. Greg thinks money held out from the construction project could be used to pay this. He will talk with Justin. The Sayers' line is fixed. VT Rural Water concurs that the pipe didn't freeze, that it appears to have been damaged during the installation of the new valve/meter. It was \$900 for the excavator work.

- Greg wanted to budget for some new equipment next year. Jim showed him where in the proposed budget he'd allotted more funding to cover the on-going need for replacement components/tools to run the system.

- Greg voiced grant possibilities for the old lines behind the School Street apartments, up Barre Hill and down the Brook Road.

- Goddard's water softener appears to have failed and they are drawing water at a stiff rate.

- water usage system wide is at a historic low. Last month, we used less than 1 million. We are averaging 23,000 gallons on a "normal" day. We appear to have

closed a lot of leaks.

- Greg shut off the water at the house on Walker Lane that is currently unoccupied. He also shut down the water at the unoccupied Willis Backus residence on High Street

- Greg is planning to take 2 weeks vacation

- Greg is planning to replace roofs on the reservoir and springhouse this upcoming summer. Tim Phillips will contact the State's drinking water division and see who Greg can talk with so these repairs do not cause a problem with the next sanitary survey.

- there was discussion about the owner responsibility for the line connecting their property to the town main. Many of the private lines are quite old. We are probably going to start seeing more failures. We probably should have a list of contractors that have worked with the system who can be given to a homeowner...and let water leak (if not a "large" leak) while the homeowner arranges their own contractor. If the leak is bad enough, we will have to shut the water off to protect the system. If the town must involve itself because an owner is waffling, we should probably have a form the homeowner signs acknowledging their responsibility for all costs incurred.

Other Business

- None

The warrants were signed.

The date of the next monthly meeting is January 9th, 2017 at 5PM. It is expected we will have a special meeting before this to address the upcoming budget

The meeting adjourned at 6:07PM

Submitted by Tim Phillips