



Town of Smithfield

Water Supply Board Advisory Commission

MEETING MINUTES

August 26, 2019

PRESENT: Derek Tomka, Jonathan Klein, Paul Perrotti, Paul Santucci, and Jeanne Verity
ABSENT: None
OTHERS: Gene Allen, *Director of Public Works/Water Commissioner*, Bob Forest, *Water Superintendent*

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Derek Tomka opened the August 26, 2019 meeting of the Smithfield Water Supply Board Advisory Commission at 6:05 p.m.

B. EMERGENCY EVACUATION AND HEALTH NOTIFICATION

Chairman Derek Tomka read the Emergency Evacuation and Health Notification.

C. DISCUSS AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 5, 2019

Jonathan Klein made a motion, seconded by Jeanne Verity, to accept the August 5, 2019 minutes as amended. The vote on the motion was all in favor and the motion carried.

D. OLD BUSINESS: CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND ACT UPON

1. UPDATE ON TANK REHABILITATION PROJECT - UPDATE

Gene Allen updated the Advisory Commission on the progress of establishing the limits of the lead contamination in the one location that tested slightly above the allowable limit. The horizontal limits have been established, however, Pare is going back to the site to take a couple more soil samples to determine the vertical limits.

Gene Allen stated that they have received the RI Board of Health approval and the Town Council's approval to go out to bid. Mr. Allen stated that, after the one area with lead in the soil is remediated, he will go out for bid and anticipates a November timeframe for advertising. Mr. Allen added that the Infrastructure Bank will not vote on the application until the spring.

2. CAPITAL PROJECT EVALUATION PROPOSAL – PARE CORP.

Gene Allen stated that Pare Corp submitted a proposal based on the discussions with the Commission, to evaluate the previously identified capital improvement projects, along with potentially new projects, that would benefit the water distribution system. These new projects include looping water mains to improve water quality and reliability in smaller geographic areas, along with water interconnections with neighboring water systems that would provide a reliable backup should one of our main trunk lines fail. This evaluation will look at each project through the hydraulic model and assess the impact on fire flow, pressure, ability of the system to maintain tank levels during peak days, and water supply. The evaluation will also assess the available water that can be supplied to the Economic Development Zone under each scenario. Lastly each scenario will reassess the pipe ranking system and reprioritize the replacement schedule accordingly.

Mr. Allen stated that there was money left over from a previous contract with Pare for developing the pipe ranking and GIS layer. This proposal is set up as an addendum to that contract and we will seek approval from the Town Council at their September 3rd meeting. Derek Tomka stated that, at the last meeting, there were other ideas that were talked about and Mr. Allen replied that those ideas have been incorporated into the scope of work before them.

Jonathan Klein questioned whether Mr. Allen has received pressure to provide more water pressure in areas of economic development zone. Mr. Allen replied that there have been concerns raised in the past about water availability in the Town's identified economic development zone but that he has received no pressure to provide more water to the area. Mr. Klein stated that the Commission previously agreed on a goal to replace the pipes in a state of good repair to be the priority. Mr. Allen replied that this project will not make any decisions on what to replace, but will provide this Commission with more data so that when they make a recommendation to the Town Council as the Water Supply Board on how to best allocate capital funding in the future, it is based on the best information available.

Jonathan Klein excused himself at this point in the meeting.

Derek Tomka made a motion, seconded by Jeanne Verity, to support and forward the August 19th Pare Corporation's Capital Project Evaluation to the Smithfield Water Supply Board. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting in Favor: Members Perrotti, Santucci, Tomka, Verity

Voting in Opposition: None

Abstaining: None

The vote on the motion being four in favor with none in opposition, the motion carried.

3. 2011 CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PLAN UPDATE – PARE CORP.

Gene Allen stated that the Clean Water Infrastructure Replacement Plan was last completed in 2011 and it is a requirement by the Board of Health that this plan be updated every five years. The proposal by Pare is on the agenda for approval by the Town Council on September 3rd.

Jeanne Verity made a motion, seconded by Paul Perrotti, for the 2011 Clean Water Infrastructure Replacement Plan update to be presented to the Smithfield Water Supply Board with support from this Board. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Voting in Favor: Members Perrotti, Santucci, Tomka, Verity

Voting in Opposition: None

Abstaining: None

The vote on the motion being four in favor with none in opposition, the motion carried.

E. NEW BUSINESS: CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AND ACT UPON

1. SWSB WEB PAGE – EVALUATE CONTENT AND POLICY TO UPDATE INFORMATION

Gene Allen distributed a draft policy that he prepared to establish guidelines for updating the Water Supply Board information on the Town's webpage. Mr. Allen stated that staff would review the web page on a quarterly basis to keep the content current. Some information would be updated more frequently if needed such as during construction projects. He also provided the Board with suggested revisions to the current web page and additional topics to be included. Jonathan Klein suggested including an archive of meeting minutes and meeting agendas. Mr. Allen requested that Board members review the policy and provide comments back to him for the next meeting.

WATER COMMISSION UPDATE

1. FINANCIAL REPORT ON FY '19 END OF YEAR FY '20 STATUS

Gene Allen stated that there was no update of significance on the status of the financial report.

Gene Allen stated that Pioneer has provided him with a proposal to provide a cost study of the enterprise fund and a complete fixed asset accounting system for the year end.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maxine Cavanagh stated that the Water Board Advisory Commission should vote on the proposals that go to the Town Council to demonstrate its support of the projects.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:45 p.m., Paul Santucci made a motion, seconded by Jeanne Verity, to adjourn the meeting. The vote on the motion was all in favor and the motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 7, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Corrao
Recording Secretary