

WEST NEWBURY BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING JANUARY 8, 2019
1:00 P.M. WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE

Commissioners present: Robert Janes, Chair, Richard Cushing
Mike Gootée, Water Superintendant and Jodi Bertrand, Administrative Assistant

Meeting called to order at 1:00

In office from Tata & Howard is Jon Gregory to discuss the bids being so high. The new tank and new chemical building bids were higher than the appropriation. Jon feels that the tank being constructed with steel is a large part of why the prices were so high. The lead time on purchasing steel is also up to 16 weeks, which can add a price to overall project cost. This type of tank is specialized and not many contractors do this particular project. Gootée and Gregory agreed they would like to re-bid and get this project moving. Gootée said they could start the project by doing the road work that would need to be completed to start the tank foundation or start some of the welding work.

Angus Jennings, Town Manager arrived at meeting 1:24.

Gregory went over everything again with Jennings, the funding shortfall of approximately \$1.1 million and to focus more around the bidding on the new tank and not so much on the Chemical Building. Gootée said that after this year there may be more Free Cash available. The water rates were also raised which could possibly bring in more funds. Gootée feels that with this Town Meeting they would like to go ahead and write an article for the tank to do now. If/when water rates go up again, Gootée said we need to let the water users aware of this increase ahead of time. Jennings asked Gootée to get him some information so he can present it at the next Capital Improvement Committee and FinCom.

Jon Gregory left the office at 2:04

Jennings stayed to discuss the indirect cost. He would like to get a policy set and everyone including commissioners agreed on keeping it basically the same and go with "scenario #3". After Commissioners agree on content of policy Jennings will draft a policy so that it can be voted on by Selectmen.

Reviewed correspondence, balances and meeting minutes from November 13th and December 11th. Janes moved to approve both minutes, Cushing seconded.

Brake Hill Water Tank: Bids came in on December 13th and were all higher than appropriated.

Drakes Landing- Gootée had no updates

Bedrock Well Upgrade: no updates

Subdivision (Neve) off Sullivan's Court: 9 Sullivan's Court sold, no further updates.

Other Matters:

- Revisit red card policy Bertrand will talk to Jake re: adding info to back of current bills.
- Will talk to Corcoran to set up another meeting for FY-2020 Budget, Wednesday January 23rd 9:00a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:49.

Jodi Bertrand
Administrative Assistant

WEST NEWBURY BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING JANUARY 23, 2019
9:00 A.M. WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE

Commissioners present: Robert Janes, Chair and Larry Corcoran
Mike Gootée, Water Superintendant and Jodi Bertrand, Administrative Assistant
Angus Jennings, Town Manager

Meeting called to order at 9:00

Discussion regarding the Budget, information on Indirect Cost, Chemical Building, prioritize capital improvements.

Gootée needs the numbers for Indirect Cost, Insurance and Retirement to complete the budget. Angus said he will get him some figures to complete the budget. Angus realizes the tank needs to stay priority Gootée gave him the shortfall from the last bids, John at Tata & Howard gave him \$600k for tank and \$400k Chemical building. Gootée also mentioned that he would like to let the public know before the next billing (April) what the rates will be going up to. Gootée gave Jennings a copy of the 2017 Pioneer Study showing the increases needed for raising funds for Tank. Angus said at the Capital Improvement Committee Meeting February 6th (7pm) will be helpful in making everyone recognize the Water Dept needs in funding all these projects. Angus will set up meeting with FinCom on February 5th at 7pm. Gootée, Janes and Corcoran said they can attend. Discussion on Newburyport Water and the attempts at water agreement between municipalities, Surface Protection bylaws and water pumped from Newburyport.

Jennings had to leave office for another meeting. Gootée and Jennings will get each other information, reports needed for meetings and Jennings will also supply Gootée with Retirement and Insurance figures so he can complete the budget for FY-2020.

Meeting adjourned at 10:14.

Jodi Bertrand
Administrative Assistant