

WEST NEWBURY BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING FEBRUARY 12, 2019  
9:00 A.M. WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE

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

Meeting called to order at 9:00

In office is Angus Jennings, Town Manager to have conference call with Peter Frasier from Hill-Top Securities. He is out of the Boston location and helps many municipalities getting loans. Frasier is saying there is no problem using the funds we have now (\$1.7 million) for projects first then going back for another loan for what is additionally needed. Frasier also said using funds now for the Wellfield will have tax benefits and will not hit water customers all at once if we did fund both projects now. Jennings said that it would allow for bidding to be done before town meeting and then after town meeting we would be able to start 4-8 weeks after. So the Article will be amended for the two projects approx \$2.9 million which is additional \$1.2 million combined with the original \$1.7 million, voted unanimous. Jennings said the final language for the articles do not have to be in for a few weeks so it can be updated as needed. Commissioners also voted to approve the two proposed Bidding and Construction Schedules submitted from Tata & Howard. Janes approved and Cushing seconded. Janes and Cushing also voted unanimously to go with Option #1 on the Town Warrant. If in FY-2020 the \$1.7 was spent then we can go and get an additional loan for the tank and that would allow the Water Department to not have the first Debt Expense payment until FY-21 which would allow us to see how we would raise our rates or figure out what financing we need to do. Gootée asked for a schedule to show what impact the rates might be for customers but actually that will not affect the rate payers until FY-21 and depending on how long the loan is 20-30 years would change the water rates accordingly.

Reviewed correspondence, balances and meeting minutes from January 8<sup>th</sup> and January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Gootée would like to go over both sets of minutes at next meeting since he did not have a chance to go over draft copies.

**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.

**FY-2020 Budget:** Gootée has the budget ready but needs a few final numbers from Angus; insurance, indirect cost and retirement.

**Other Matters:**

- Bertrand will contact CUSI about adding info to back of current bills. Water Commissioners will come back in office Wednesday to look at draft copy of billing information which will be printed on back of invoice statement.
- Gootée had some quotes for powered drum truck to haul chemical barrels and use in barn for pipe etc. He would like to look into buying something like this for the Water Department and can look at State Bid list. He said he will do some research for the right equipment for weight they will need to move. Water Commissioners said to find one that will work for him and they voted for him to purchase, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00.

Jodi Bertrand  
Administrative Assistant