

WEST NEWBURY BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING JANUARY 10, 2022
12:00 P.M. WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE

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

Meeting called to order at 12:01.

Angus Jennings, Town Manager, attended meeting to discuss budget and loan information. Gootée let Jennings know that he is intending to retire October 14th of this year. He is meeting with Social Security /Essex County Retirement and will know for sure after they give him more information. Jennings discussed posting Gootée's position in Town Hall and see if anybody applies but will have to check town policy before to make sure it can be done this way.

Jennings handed out the appropriation for Retirement costs for FY-23. Debt schedule is valid for as many years listed on the schedule and can be included in the Budget. The BANs will be interest \$16,500 and principal \$40,000. When the Church and Prospect Street Water Main projects are approved and ready to start, then the BANs loan (for the 1.1 tank project) will be rolled in together for a single loan.

Jennings gave another handout from the Dept of Treasury, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, which allows monies to be used for Water & Sewer Infrastructure. The Select Board could put all or some of these funds towards the Water Department needs.

Gootée went over the Water Main Replacement from Hydraulic Study planned to start in 2024. This has all the Mains/Streets with estimated costs. The current project for FY 2023 Fall Town Meeting for Church and Prospect Streets has an estimated cost of \$2.6 Million. Jennings would like Gootée to add the dates of how old each Streets Water Mains are to his report.

Jennings is hoping that the Select Board will set the Article due date to mid February since no deadline has been sent out yet. He also thinks Town Meeting may be pushed out to mid-May. Jennings suggested to Gootée that instead of raising Water Rates to transfer free cash into revenue to subsidize the increase in line items, personnel changes that will be happening along with the BANs payments which will be moved from being a yearly article to an Operating Expense line item. When the time comes to combine the Water Main Project and the BANs into a loan, this will still be a line item in the Operating Expense Budget.

Review balances, correspondence and draft minutes from December 13th, Janes moved to approve minute, unanimous. (Executive session minutes May 5th are still not being released at this time)

Brake Hill Stand Pipe: Gootée said they capped the ground area over the Stand Pipe. They will have to see if the ground lead levels in the spring when the ground is thawed out.

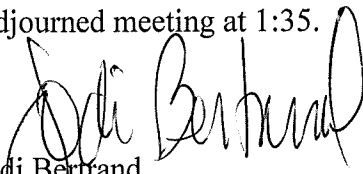
Chemical Building and Wellfield: Gootée said DanKris is coming in tomorrow to replace the KOH bolt.

Pipestave Tank: Gootée had the Tank Bid that was advertised and the proposals will be opened on January 27th.

Other Matters:

- Water Commissioners looked over Gootée's draft of the insert for Town Report. Bertrand will add it to the report and send to the Town Clerk when Gootée approves.
- Gootée will be talking to Tom Cusick at Newburyport Water before he drafts up a letter.

Adjourned meeting at 1:35.



Jodi Bertrand
Administrative Assistant