

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 11, 2019

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held at the 438 Granby Road Office on Wednesday December 11, 2019. William L. Schenker called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:	Chairman	William L. Schenker
	Clerk	R. Scott Williams
	Associate Member	Stephanie K. Wall
	Superintendent	Jeffrey A. Cyr
	Chairman Prudential Board	Bruce H. Perron

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS: The weekly warrants were signed by all Board Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: R. Scott Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of November 1, 2019. This motion was seconded by Stephanie K. Wall. Motion Carried

GRANBY WATER UPDAT: Jeff Cyr reported to the Board that the the Hydraulic Model for the proposed water line has been completed by Tighe and Bond. Jeff noted that there were no issues and Phase 2 of the project would be favorable to water quality and redundancy in the system. Jeff also noted the soil borings for the Bridge crossing were unfavorable and Chappell Engineering needs additional time to produce a more definitive design. The letter the Water Board send to Granby Selectboard asking how many customers would be interested in the receiving water was not responded to yet. Jeff will keep the Board updated as things progress.

INDUSTRIAL DRIVE TANK  
INSPECTION PROPOSAL FROM

UNDERWATER SOLUTIONS: Jeff informed the Board that he tried to reach out to Joe Harris of ITI (Infrastructure Technologies, Inc) who in the past has done work on our Water Tanks, including inspections. Jeff left messages, e-mails and has not heard back from Mr. Harris. Jeff noted we have until January 14, 2020 per our DEP Sanitary survey to have the interior of the Industrial Drive Water Tank inspected. Jeff contacted Underwater Solutions who will be able to do an inspection on the tank before the end of the year. The cost will be \$7,999. Jeff noted they will have a person dive in the tank check the interior walls and draw out and sediment. R. Scott Williams made a motion to approve the \$7,999 to Underwater Solutions for the inspection of the Industrial Drive water tank. This motion was seconded by Stephanie K. Wall.

Motion Carried

BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

UPDATE AND CONTINUED DISCUSSION:

CLERK/TREASURER POSITION-

ELECTED VS APPOINTED: Jeff Cyr opened up the discussion by stating the By-law review committee is making progress on the by-law revisions. The question of Elected vs Appointed

for the District Clerk/Treasurer position is still unclear. Stephanie Wall and William L. Schenker noted they had thought about it and they are still undecided. Bruce H. Perron noted to the Board that the Prudential Committee has taken a position on it and feel the position should be appointed and not elected. R. Scott Williams noted he is in favor of the appointed due to the concern that anyone who is popular could be elected. Jeff Cyr mentioned that this is just a discussion and if the position remained elected for the next 3 years and the voters voted to appoint vs. elect at the annual meeting, that person would automatically be the appointed person for the position. The Board thought a meeting with both Boards to discuss might be beneficial.

PRELIMINARY FY21  
BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Jeff Cyr presented the Board a preliminary budget for FY21. (See note 1) Wages remain the same. Based on a former projection by MWRA our water purchase is anticipated to increase 2%. Jeff noted we will hear from the MWRA by the end of January on the final figure. Retirement figure is down as we have one less employee. Jeff noted that we have turned back monies in Health, Dental and Life last over the past few years so he has a proposed lowering that amount. Jeff stated our surplus is healthy for the upcoming budget year as well. The surplus is a result of turn back and exceeding our FY19 Commitment. William L. Schenker opened up discussion of raises and feels the department has been working very hard especially being down a Maintenance worker. After a brief discussion about raises for the Water employees, the Board asked if Jeff could put together an impact spreadsheet for the next meeting to further discuss.

PICTURES FOR THE  
ANNUAL REPORT:

Jeff Cyr informed the Board that he reached out to Evie Mikuszewski, and Tim Daly for Pictures of John Mikuszewski and David Daly to insert a memorium in the upcoming Annual Report.

CHAIRMAN BRUCE H.  
PERRON:

Bruce Perron asked to be recognized under other business for the discussion about the winter storm we had on December 2 & 3 and the fire hydrant shoveling. Bruce wanted to let the Board know he was very angry and he had heard that Water did not call Fire for help shoveling the hydrants. Bruce felt that safety should have been the number one objective after the 18 inches of snow that we got. Bruce heard Jeff Cyr had plowed his own driveway with a Water truck and did not do the hydrant in front of his own home. Jeff replied that within his 23 years he has never once used the water dept. vehicle to plow his driveway due to the fact that he has his own. Bruce continued to try and breakdown who called who and who didn't respond to who during calls and text messages. Jeff Cyr tried to respond but Bruce stated he had the floor and was not done speaking. Jeff Cyr expressed concern regarding the Prudential Committee Chair calling the Water Dept. office on Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> and asking what the priorities of the Water Department were for that day. Jeff then reached out to the Fire Chief to discuss the shoveling of hydrants, but Chief had been dealing with a problem at the Fire House Museum and stated he would get back to Jeff. Jeff Cyr then presented the Board a letter from the Fire Chief and stated he did not hear back from the Chief and felt the letter was uncalled for. (See Note 1). Bruce stated he

had no knowledge of the letter and stated that the Water Departments head did not reach out to the Fire for help. Bruce then noted that the Fire Dept. had crews that worked overtime Wednesday and Thursday to clear hydrants. Bruce Perron suggested the Superintendent of Water and Fire Chief should be plowed out by their prospective departments first as they are emergency personnel. Jeff Cyr noted he contacted the town to send out a robo call regarding clearing of fire hydrants and asked Bob Smith from the cable access channel to post a banner regarding hydrants in both Districts. Jeff also reached out to several communities to ask what their policy is for shoveling of hydrants and there were several different scenarios. William L. Schenker is also concerned about public safety and stated he felt as though the 2 department heads are capable and can work together and use common sense to determine when and who should shovel the hydrants after a snow storm.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

R. Scott Williams made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by William L. Schenker. Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

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R. Scott Williams, Clerk