

Water Commissioners' Meeting March 12th, 2013

Members present were: Dana Blais, Gregg Edwards, Chris Stewart
Employees present were: John Driscoll, Ron Davan, Randy Brown, Greg Cheney
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on a motion by Dana.
The agenda was approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.
The February 6th, 2013 minutes were approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The Manager revisited the idea of another Capital Improvement Plan Study and a Water Rate Study to be completed by Tata & Howard. The capital study would not exceed (per T&H) \$30K and the rate study would not exceed (per T&H) \$8.5K. The Manager had realized in procuring the first quote from Tata & Howard that in fact the last official water rate study was done in 2003 and NOT in 2007 as he had previously believed.

The Manager also stressed the importance of the new capital study as well since it had been 2001 since one was last completed. The addition of a new water treatment facility, a new water storage tank and miles of new larger water distribution mains had changed the flows and pressures everywhere in the hydraulic model of Templeton Water's system.

The Board felt that due to the high costs of each of these studies that at least two other quotes should be obtained first to do Templeton Water's due diligence. Although the law does not require three quotes on services like these, the Manager and Superintendent agreed and would contact Tighe & Bond and Weston & Sampson to obtain these other quotes on these studies.

New Business:

The Manager presented to the Board for approval a water budget for FY14 in the amount of \$1,407,432. The Manager noted an approximate savings of \$10K due to the lower bond payments and also an increase in the maintenance accounts, 620 and 624, due to the multiple water main breaks in Q1 of the fiscal year 2013. He had further eliminated several budget items that had in previous budget years borne no expense.

On a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to accept the Manager's proposed water budget for the fiscal year 2014.

The Manager informed the Board that there was to be a pre-construction meeting on Back Bay Phase V on March 20th to discuss the Fisher Street Reconstruction Project. Either the Manager or the Superintendent or both would attend.

The Superintendent had met with one of the contractors involved in the Baldwinville Road Reconstruction Project who had agreed to install several feet of ductile iron water main pipe at the Maple Street end of Baldwinville Road. Templeton Water would be responsible for all materials for this job.

The Manager explained to the Board that this would minimize the impact that high pressure would have at this intersection in any foreseeable subsequent water distribution main breaks. Right now, the feed from the Maple Street Wells is 12" up to Elm Street, then 8", then 6" and then 16" by the Baldwinville Road/School Street intersection. This "bottle-necking" of water distribution at the lowest point in Baldwinville created the highest pressure as well, which could be subject to future water distribution main breaks.

The Manager had distributed copies to the Board of the proposed changes in the Town's Zoning By-Laws regarding the water supply protection districts. These changes had already been made as they applied to the Templeton Board of Health Regulations by a vote at their regularly scheduled meeting in February. Copies of these proposed changes had come directly from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and had been incorporated in a draft by-law change proposal to the Templeton Planning Board, along with an original and several copies of the new Zone II Delineation Map for Templeton.

The changes in the zoning by-laws had to be approved by the voters at the Templeton Annual Town Meeting on May 14th. Neither the Manager nor the Superintendent was anticipating any controversy surrounding acceptance of these by-law changes; all the new Zone II Delineation Study had done was to make more town land available for development.

There being no other Open Session business to discuss at this time, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Open Session Water Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll
General Manager