

# Dighton Water District

192 Williams Street  
North Dighton, MA 02764

Edward Swartz  
Jeffery Cloonan  
Sue Medeiros

## *COMMISSIONERS*

*Tina Bragga*  
**TREASURER**

### THE FOLLOWING MEETING WAS BOTH AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDED

Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 6:00 P.M.  
Water District Headquarters

Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, Ed Swartz, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 10, 2015.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### APPROVE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS:

Chairman Ed Swartz entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday January 20, 2015 monthly meeting and the executive session minutes of January 20, 2015, executive minutes not to be released. Commissioner Sue Medeiros, so moved, Commissioner Jeff Cloonan seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

#### READING OF CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Swartz notified the public that there is a mailing out that the Board believes to be a scam in regards to repairing your exterior water lines, letter attached. This letter was not sent out by the Water District nor is it endorsed by the Water District. The District has no knowledge of the letter and we want the people to be aware of it before they start following up and asking questions on it. Please call the District with any questions. A copy of the letter is being sent to the Board of Selectmen and the Police Department.

#### FINANCIAL CONDITION:

Chairman Swartz read the financial conditions. Chairman Swartz asked for a motion to accept the financial conditions, Sue so moved, Jeff seconded, motion passed.

#### SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT:

Superintendent Greg Olsen stated that it has not stopped snow and because of this the Distribution employees have been shoveling out hydrants along with residents. Superintendent Olsen thanked the residents that do shovel out hydrants. There is a Massachusetts General Law that states you are not allowed to pile snow against a fire hydrant. Superintendent Olsen stated he has copies of the law and may distribute to a few homeowners.

Superintendent Olsen reported there was a main break on Center Street February 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Dighton Water District has been selected as one of 63 Community Public Water Systems in the state of Massachusetts to participate in a Drinking Water Infrastructure Need Survey Assessment. DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) will meet with the Districts engineer and the District, at DEP's expense, to see what our needs are, what our financial situations is and see which ones are long term and short. This will be reported back to the state as far as how much money will be turned out for infrastructure loans and grants. Tata & Howard, the Districts engineer, is associated with this survey.

The District has received today a draft of the Water Treatment Plant evaluation from Tata & Howard. The Prime Operator, Dorian Jefferson, Tata & Howard and the Superintendent will review and make a presentation to the Board.

Superintendent Olsen reported he replaced tires on one of the vehicles and will need to purchase sand and heating oil.

Superintendent Olsen stated that Distribution employee Kevin Carpenter and he attended a train course on asbestos in distribution systems. The only area with asbestos pipe is the Bristol County Agricultural School. The District has tried several times to reach out to the School. The new DEP requirements when working with the asbestos will cost the District several of thousands of dollars. Everyone at the District is supposed to be certified, at this time there are four on staff. The District wants to make the Agricultural School responsible for either the replacement or repair of that line. Anything past the meter pit on Center Street should be their responsibility. The problem being the last house down by the bridge is not part of the school it is a private resident. Letters have been sent, phone calls made with no reply. Chairman Swartz suggested sending a letter to the Bristol County Commissioners explaining to them the situation and that we have attempted numerous times to meet with Bristol Agricultural. Superintendent Olsen continued that he believes the school laid the main in the forties when it was feed by a well. When the well went bad, as far as we can find for records the District tied them into our water but there was never an official signed agreement saying we would take over the infrastructure.

Next on the Superintendents report was the tank mixer program. Chairman Ed Swartz stated the Board received an opinion from Attorney Gay stating that we can move forward with the bid to do one tank then put an article on the upcoming District warrant for the other tank. Chairman Swartz asked that the Board go on record approving the bid of \$54,000.00 for the Elm Street tank and that we move forward with an additional sum of money for the Annual District meeting. Also we request from the bid company that they will honor the bid for the Williams Street tank through July 1<sup>st</sup>. We will sign contract for the Elm Street tank. Chairman Swartz asked for a motion to accept the bid of \$54,000.00 for the purchase and install of the mixer at the Elm Street water tank, Commissioner Medeiros so moved, Commissioner Cloonan seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Olsen reported the Administrative Compliance Officer, Charles Cestodio Jr., has given a draft copy of the annual bids with a tentative opening date of April 7, 2015. Superintendent will review the draft copy. Holland Chemical is the bidder for the poly

aluminum chloride that we presently use. They would like to send a request in the form of a letter to see if the board is interested in accepting a proposal to continue the supply of poly aluminum chloride at the current bid rate instead of rebidding. The Wareham Fire District has accepted a similar deal instead of rebidding. Chairman Swartz will inquire to a procurement person and Superintendent Olsen will contact the Wareham Fire District.

The Board received a contract from AT&T in regards to their antennas on the Elm Street tank which was a decrease of about \$700.00 a month. Chairman Swartz asked that the Administrative Compliance Officer respond back that the Board does not accept that contract offer and the Board would like to continue with the current terms of the current lease contract. Chairman Swartz asked for a motion to go on record on sending AT&T a letter stating we will continue the contract at the current lease rate, Commissioner Medeiros so moved, Commissioner Cloonan seconded, motion passed.

The Board received a draft copy of the 2014 Consumer Confidence Report. Chairman Swartz motioned that if the Board did not get back to Superintendent Olsen by Friday to move forward with the printing of the report. All were in favor, motion passed.

#### MEETING WITH SCHEDULED GUESTS:

Eoghan Kelley – The Pines – Mr. Kelley stated that he brought a copy of the approval for the comprehensive permit and questioned when the fees had gone up over the last several years. Tina Bragga stated that the Capital Improvement Fee increased June 6, 2006. Mr. Kelley stated that The Pines was approved February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Chairman Swartz stated that what the Board has gathered is that the Capital Improvement Fee is a fee that can increase. If the District didn't have this fee you would never have been able to have the 40B developments because we would have been under a strict DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) regulation and we would have had no developments at all, the Town couldn't approve any. We were in the process of building the treatment plant. The District was under a moratorium that halted all development; the District was mandated to build the Treatment Plant. Mr. Kelley questioned if the Board decided to change the fee this year from the \$6000.00 to \$8,000.00 how this would affect The Pines. Chairman Swartz explained that he didn't believe the rate would be going up but if it does then yes The Pines would have to pay the increased rate, the District is allowed to raise the fee if it deems necessary. Mr. Kelley asked if the \$40,000.00 credit that The Pines has with the District would be considered Capital Improvement fee for 10 lots where this credit was prior to the increase and also if he paid the fee upfront for all the lots if this would protect them from possible increases. Chairman Swartz stated that the board would ask legal counsel. There was a discussion on the connection between The Pines and Stoney Ridge subdivisions. Mr. Kelley stated the connection cost was approximately \$19,000.00, \$1,800.00 for the valve and \$17,000.00 for the connection. Chairman Swartz stated that this would be credited toward the Capital Improvement fees.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Intermunicipal Agreement – No updates.

GIS Mapping – No updates.

District Accountant/Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Position – Have started the interviews.

NEW BUSINESS:

National Grid – Energy Supplier

Tina Bragga presented the board with several energy quotes. The board requested that Tina look into Good Energy the company that Town Hall has been working with. Chairman Swartz asked for a motion that allows the Clerk/Treasurer to go into contract for a minimum with an energy supplier. Commissioner Medeiros so moved, Commissioner Cloonan seconded, all were in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be March 10, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. Annual District Election will be May 18, 2015. Nominations for Commissioner for three years will be open from March 2, 2015 to April 2, 2015. Annual District Meeting will be May 28, 2015. Deadline for submission of Special Articles for the Annual Meeting Warrant will be March 27, 2015.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

The board went into executive session to discuss personnel matters, will not be coming back into regular session. Chairman Swartz asked for a motion to go into executive session, Commissioner Medeiros so moved, Commissioner Cloonan seconded. Roll call was taken.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Bragga  
District Clerk

Those in Attendance:

Edward Swartz  
Jeffrey Cloonan  
Eoghan Kelley

Sue Medeiros  
Tina Bragga

Greg Olsen  
Jim Ready

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Chairman Ed Swartz

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Clerk Jeff Cloonan

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Commissioner Sue Medeiros