

**Dighton Water District
192 Williams Street
North Dighton, MA 02764**

Derek Lach
Jason Quinn
Edward Swartz
COMMISSIONERS
Tina Bragga
Clerk/Treasurer

THE FOLLOWING MEETING WAS BOTH AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDED

Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.
Old Town Hall

Chairman Derek Lach called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on August 6, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance

GUEST HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TOM FERRY – Main Street Project

Commissioner Ed Swartz stated that the District will have to borrow to replace the water main on Main Street and questioned Superintendent Tom Ferry what his phase plan and finance side looks like.

Superintendent Ferry stated that they would have to use solely chapter 90 monies and grants. Project may be spread out over three years with the earliest start date July 2021.

The District will look into possible grants and speak with Representative Pat Haddad. We will need to have our own engineering plans draw up, will contact the Town's Engineer to see if they can handle the water side of the project. Placement of the main was discussed whether to replace or abandon in place. A special article will be placed on the Fall Special meeting warrant for an engineering study. The Engineering Company will help with applying for grant funding and bonding from the main replacement.

GUEST KEN & ROBERT BERUBE – Old Williams Estates

Mr. Berube presented a plan of the Old Williams Estates subdivision to show the Board where the proposed water main would be and how they would like to loop the main through a property on John Street. An easement would be necessary to complete the loop and the Board was asked if they would make the necessary contact with the homeowner, District Counsel will be contacted on how to proceed. Commissioner Swartz is concerned with the water main being too close to the drainage and asked that this be discussed with the Planning and Conservation Boards. Developer is responsible for running loop.

On a motion made and seconded the board voted to move forward with the conditions that we talked about today, sign off by the Planning Board and contingent on achieving the easement through legal means. District will be responsible for taking care of the easement with legal and the developer agrees to do all the tie ins that are necessary as part of the submission.

Mr. Berube asked if the Board would discuss the tie in fees where the subdivision will be installing 750' of additional water main to create the loop. Superintendent Cloonan asked that the cost of the additional work be sent to him. Board agreed to discuss further.

GUEST CHUCK ADELSBERGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS – Project Updates

Dias Property – Ground Water Exploration – Report has been given to Superintendent Cloonan.

Water System Master Plan – Chuck presented the Board with a draft copy of the Water System Master Plan for their review. Chuck asked the Board to review and let him know any comments. The Master Plan shows rate proposal to cover our operational expenses and phase 1 of the Master Plan. Chuck wanted to go on verbal record that the Main Street Water Main Project would not be on phase 1 from a water system stand point. Chuck stated the most essential projects for the District from his view is the Water Audit and Water Treatment Facility Evaluation and Optimization Study.

Commissioner Swartz stated that Bristol County Agricultural High School and Main Street could be the largest areas of unaccounted water. Chuck agreed and stated this is why we need to do the Water Audit.

Chuck continued with the rate study stating that with the moratorium the District will not have revenue coming in from new connections. The proposed rate study has the rates more than doubling and suggested a step increase. Would like to look into tier structure.

The Treatment Plant was designed to handle 1.5 million gallons per day. The plant has never handled this, from what has been discovered from the study Chuck doesn't believe the plant can produce 1.5 million. The Optimization Study of the plant will help to understand this and if there is a way to increase.

Chairman Lach stated that there are still decisions to be made as far as the plant. Right now, we need to work on getting more water to the plant. Cedar 1 well needs to be replaced, a well is failing at Walker Street that we need to look at this winter. There was also a large leak located in the system this week.

Chuck stated they are finishing the report for the Groundwater Exploration to submit to DEP. Chuck asked the Board to email him with any questions regarding the Water Master Plan report.

Swartz suggested posting the draft plan online and having a virtual public hearing for the residents.

APPROVE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS:

Motion was made and seconded to approve minutes of the July 14th monthly, July 14th executive session meeting on nonunion personnel contract's, motion passed unanimously.

READING OF CORRESPONDENCE: None

FINANCIAL CONDITION:

On a motion made and seconded the board vote to accept the financial reports as presented.

On a motion was made and seconded the Board approved the expenditure warrants as presented.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT:

Superintendent Cloonan reported that in the month of July we pumped 22 million gallons of water, which is about 2 million gallons less than July of 2019.

Walker 2 VFD went down in the storm this week, working without this well. Waiting on new VFD to be delivered, well should be up by the weekend. Wells are at levels that we usually see in late September. Walker Street wells are 16' down.

The full water ban is still in effect. Staff are going out to check for violators, residents are calling when they see systems on.

Chairman Lach reported there was a new irrigation system installed on Main Street which is not allowed on the District system. Superintendent will research.

Bristol County Agricultural High School is in the process of install meters. The master meter is still installed and being used, this meter is very inaccurate. There was a meter set up for the ball field and one of the school's green houses, meter was read a month and half in at 875,000 gallons and the master meter read at 275,000. This is 600,000 gallons of unaccounted water on the master meter. Pressure test will be performed next week and hopefully the master meter can be eliminated. 60 to 70 percent of the meters should be install by next week.

Intrplast will be changing out and downsizing their meters also.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bristol County Agricultural High School Project – Previously discussed

Credit Card – No discussion

Employee Policy Handbook – Review Policies – Copy was given to Union Steward for his review.

Commissioners Swartz reinforced the important of employees wearing face mask.

NEW BUSINESS:

Return from Vacation Policy – On a motion made and seconded the Board accepted the Return from Vacation Policy. Policy will be forwarded to the union.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

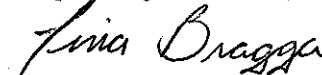
Next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners – Thursday, September 10, 2020, 4:00 PM at the Old Town Hall

PUBLIC INPUT: None

Executive Session Under the Provisions of Chapter 30A Section 21 (a) Nonunion Personnel- Roll call was taken; Board will not return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Swartz made a motion to adjourn at 5:35 p.m.

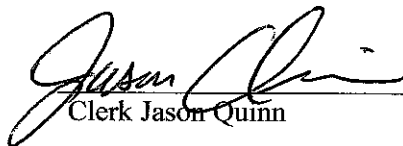
Respectfully Submitted,



Tina Bragga
District Clerk



Chairman Derek Lach



Clerk Jason Quinn



Member Ed Swartz