

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

MINUTES OF MEETING August 2, 2022

Town Hall Courtroom

Members Present: Bob Bartini, Roger Scheurer, Dave Forrest, Don Zukowski

Others Present: Lenny Tisdale, Chris Brittain

Chairman Bartini called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm and introduced new Superintendent Lenny Tisdale and Administrative Assistant Sam Lovett

Superintendent Tisdale provided a Water Department update:

Meter Update: Planning to do a mailing to get residents on a roster, approximately 100 – 125 per quarter, starting in October. There are approximately 450 meter-radios to be replaced. Al Zerbato, Jeremy Baker, Len Tisdale, and Mike Towler will work on replacing the radios. When this is accomplished, we are switching our software from Greenleaf to SoftRight.

Staffing: Hired a new person from Dalton, he doesn't have licensing but has water experience from Chicopee. (since this meeting the applicant withdrew his offer for employment) 2 open positions in the water department, Water Plant Chief Operator and in Water Distribution. Unable to fill positions, reaching out to other municipalities to find per diem coverage. Question was raised as to whether the town would be fined by DEP due to lack of applicants for open positions. Positions are being posted, no applicants. Alternative, if required by DEP, we will have a private system. That would take care of licensing and vendor fees. Lenny explained that Lee is a level 3 treatment plant, Pittsfield is a 3, surrounding municipalities are a 2, we are a three due to the design of the water plant. Lenny to talk to Charlie Kline about possibly changing to a 2.

Tisdale provided a Railroad Water Line Update: The surveying is done; a new water line needs to be set and then tie ins can be brought in from the old line. The data will be had by the end of August and they will start the preliminary water line layout based off of the survey so it can be a smooth transition. Superintendent Lenny Tisdale is meeting with Tighe&Bond. Finding the route, Lenny mentions down the sidewalk. Jack over from Dresser Hull, or coming off of Main St, but we didn't want to disturb the new blacktop.

Tisdale also explained that the Bradley St Railroad Culvert: Have had no response, but talked to Steve Garrity had been reached out to but they haven't accomplished anything. Housatonic Railroad want to close Willow St. to finish culvert, as well as the culvert for Columbia St. Have to reach out to the Selectman to close the road down.

Highway & Cemetery

New Trucks: No updates, Lenny has reached out to MHQ as well as another vendor. Zach had met to MHQ but has gotten no response. We have to wait for the State bids before we can try to get something outside. It involves an application to the state for procurement, but a letter from MHQ that says they have no trucks available is required.

Tisdale stated that the current fleet is operational, the Highway Department has very well qualified mechanic, the bodies and frames are okay. East Coast Resurfacing in Pittsfield does a good job. The 550 needs frame work. Bartini expressed the urgency of the situation.

Paving - Tisdale provided an update on paving.

East St: Palmer Paving will be adding a structural shim (approximately 260 ton) along the curb line. And pave the wearing course on Monday

Spring St just needs and overlay then they will jump over to Summer St followed by West Road. Driveway aprons will be installed shortly thereafter.

Tisdale met with DOT Dave Stokes to discuss submissions to Chapter 90 for paving projects on Orchard St, Church St and George St. Berkshire Gas has been contacted for corrective measures on Orchard St for previous work replacing a gas main.

Roadside Mowing – Jim Morawiec is working on it.

Cemetery Complaint – Received complaint about dogs being off leash in the cemetery, there is a sign stating “No Dogs”, but it has been found difficult to enforce.

Cemetery Mower – New mower was approved, planned to go to PLT. Unfortunately, they didn’t have it on the shelf and it needed to be ordered. It can be put off until next year, the current mower will last through the summer.

Street Lights – Administrator Brittain explained that the town has been investigating the option to purchase and convert our street lights to LED. The town has options to purchase or lease to own the lights and can choose regular LED or smart LED. Dave Forrest moved to endorse the plan. Motion passed

Cemetery Commission – Brittain explained that there was only one member left on the board and that it could be absorbed by the BPW. Chris said he would reach out to the remaining members and then bring the concept to the Select board for final approval.

Bullseye Demo – Demolition is completed.

Abatements

An abatement was submitted for 45 Stockbridge Rd (Lozner) for a pool liner replacement. The Board reviewed the information sent in by the customer and after discussion, they voted to abate 2880 cu. ft. on the sewer side. Dave Forrest made the motion. Motion was passed.

An abatement was submitted for 810 Fairview St (Carlino) for a pool liner replacement. The Board reviewed the information sent in by the customer and after discussion, they voted to abate 3320 cu ft on the sewer side. Roger Scheurer made the motion. Motion was passed.

An abatement was submitted for 23 Robert St (Beckman) for filling a pool. The Board reviewed the information sent in by the customer and after discussion, they voted to abate 1069 cu. ft. on the sewer side. Don Zukowski made the motion. Motion was passed.

An abatement was submitted for 5 Hartwood St (Doherty) for a broken pipe. The Board reviewed the information sent in by the customers, Patricia White came to speak on behalf of the home owner. They voted to abate the sewer charge that was beyond the minimum sewer rate. Motion was made by Don Zukowski. Motion was passed.

An abatement was submitted for 235 Willow St (Dyer) for filling a pool. The Board reviews the information sent in by the customer and after discussion, they voted to abate 3500 cu. ft. on the sewer side. Don Zukowski made the motion. Motion was passed.

Other

State Police Barracks want to connect to town sewer, contractor is Robert Collins. It was discussed whether they would pay the capacity fee. It was decided that the State Police would be charged a capacity fee based off of Title 5 regulations with approximately 5 employees in the building at once.

Roger Scheurer moved to approved the Minutes of 5/17/2022. Motion to approve passed.

Chairperson Bartini declared the meeting adjourned at 1:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Lovett