

Harwich Water Department  
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS  
Meeting on Tuesday, April 14th, 2015

Present: Chairman Allin Thompson, Vice Chair Danette Gonsalves, Clerk Donald Bates, Town Administrator Chris Clark, Comptroller Sandra Cummings, Sr. Billing Administrator Wellesley Marsh, Secretary Tracey Alves

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

The Board signed the meeting Minutes from March 3rd, 2015.

Chairman Thompson entertained a motion to adopt the Minutes from the meetings of March 10th, March 17th and March 31st, 2015. Vice Chair Gonsalves moved to approve this motion with a second by Clerk Bates; 3-0-0

The Board approved the internal abatements for the Water Department in the amount of \$2567.82 with a motion by Vice Chair Gonsalves and a second by Clerk Bates; 3-0-0

An abatement request was reviewed for the property of 42 Blue Heron Landing. Vice Chair Gonsalves motioned to deny the request with a second by Clerk Bates; 3-0-0

Vice Chair Gonsalves removed herself from participating in the review of an abatement request for the property of 468 Main Street because she recognized the address. The request was reviewed and denied with a motion by Clerk Bates and a second by Chair Thompson; 2-0-0

An abatement request was reviewed for the property of 104 Julien Road. Vice Chair Gonsalves motioned to deny the request with a second by Clerk Bates; 3-0-0

Discussion began regarding the proposed charter changes. Efforts have been made to streamline the changes. Chair Thompson is concerned after hearing John Giorgio's comments about the committee not being able to set rates that with all of the changes that the water department may just become second fiddle. It was proposed that sometime this summer that the Commissioners sit down and have a talk with the Selectmen and discuss things from an operations standpoint.

Town Administrator Clark commented about the reorganization chart and how a water/wastewater board does have 3 different elements and how having 3 sub-divisions would make a lot of sense.

The Well 10 treatment plant is on-line today with the water going into discharge. The water department is waiting for an occupancy permit and inspection. The insurance rider will be granted once the occupancy permit is given.

The rate hearing schedule will go into effect as of March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The rates were voted as proposed.

The Board reviewed the large meters report which showed how many meters are currently in the system ranging from 1" to 4" in size. \$90,000 a year is budgeted towards changing out meters and radio readers. The numbers are getting better in terms of getting the old

meters out of the system. Key water department personnel will have to get together to review the best way to tackle changing out the remaining large meters in the system.

There is a Pleasant Bay Road property that is said to have a shed that was built that may be on town property. The property will soon be surveyed to determine if the claim is factual.

The Board reviewed and approved the executive session minutes from July 9, 2013, April 15, 2014 and June 17th, 2014 with a motion by Vice Chair Gonsalves and a second by Clerk Bates; 3-0-0

The Board scheduled an executive session meeting for Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 8:00 am to review the resumes submitted for the Superintendent of Water & Wastewater position.

The distribution laborer position is currently advertised as well with a deadline by the end of the business day on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015.

The DEP is now pushing for the water department to do water permit withdrawal. Comptroller Cummings will be attending a meeting that will be held in Brewster on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. There was no strict timeline that was mentioned at the meeting that was held just recently at the Cape Cod Community College and now they are pushing it.

The Board will have to review the language of Distribution Foreman Steve Hicks' contract before they decide on whether or not he will be allowed to carry over 5 weeks of vacation vs. 2 weeks to the new fiscal year.

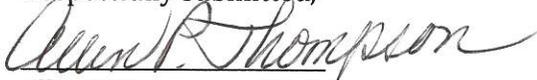
The topic of solar revenues was discussed along with how the solar revenues will be allocated.

More signs that say "Public Water Supply" will need to be put up at the water department to deter dog walkers from walking their dogs on town property. The water department's electrician Scott Currie has commented on concentrating on work out back and being startled by dogs that were not on a leash.

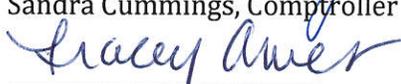
The Board will meet again on Tuesday, April 28th, 2015.

Chairman Thompson motioned to adjourn at 9:39 a.m. with a second from Vice Chair Gonsalves; 3-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

  
Allin P. Thompson, Chairman

  
Danette Gonsalves, Vice Chair

  
Sandra Cummings, Comptroller  
  
Tracey Alves, Board Secretary

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Donald T. Bates, Clerk