

Harwich Water Department
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
Meeting held on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2013 at 8:15 a.m.

Present: Chairman Allin Thompson, Vice Chairman Danette Gonsalves, Clerk Donald Bates, Superintendent Craig Wiegand, Comptroller Sandra Cummings, Selectman Larry Ballantine, Board Secretary Tracey Alves

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

Chairman Thompson entertained a motion for the Minutes from the meeting of November 19th, 2013.

Vice Chairman Gonsalves moved to approve the Minutes with just a couple of changes.

Clerk Bates seconded. 3-0-0

Chairman Thompson began by speaking about a town owned parcel of property located off of Bucks Pond Road. This particular piece of property was of interest because it is owned by the Town of Harwich and it could potentially be a parcel that the Harwich Water Department would propose a trade for.

In regards to progress being made on Well 10 everything is coming along as planned. Half of the foundation has been poured. If all goes well, the other half should be completed within the next few weeks with the remainder to bid going out at the end of December. The award will happen in mid-January. The building will go up hopefully by the end of February to the beginning of March and on-line by July.

The Lothrop tank painting and restoration bids are out and should close within two weeks. The bid opening will occur soon here at the Harwich Water Department and we are anticipating seeing some good prices come in.

In the past, it was found that the Harwich Water Department was not always informed early enough when there was a closure due to snow, etc. Therefore, when the Town Administrator makes a decision to close, it has been requested that the Harwich Water Department be notified as early as possible. Selectman Ballantine said that this should be an easy fix and he recommended that an e-mail be sent to Bob Lawton. This will not apply to emergency personnel.

Superintendent Wiegand has read and does not like the proposal that was sent from Verizon for the proposed cell tower site on Spruce Road. He doesn't agree with the terms and conditions. He decided that he is going to have Town Council draft up the same proposal that the Harwich Water Department has with AT & T for their cell tower site and send it back to Verizon.

Open Cape's representative Tony DaSilva is proposing that the Harwich Water Department go in with a few other companies to cut down on the high cost of running fiber optics into the area. Mr. DaSilva is interested in how much the Water Department would be willing to pay if a couple more companies were to go in on it as well? Chairman Thompson stated that it

doesn't work that way and requested that Mr. DaSilva inform the Water Department as to how much it would cost if the other companies were to get involved. Also, this is just for the installation portion of the fiber optics. There would still be a steep monthly fee that would come in at three times the amount that the Comcast is currently billing.

The Board of Water Commissioner's voted to accept a grill donation offered by Superintendent Wiegand.

Chairman Thompson motioned to accept the donation.

Clerk Bates seconded. 3-0-0

Union negotiations are still unsettled for this year's employee contracts. The 2% increase is in jeopardy. The reason for the delay is unknown.

Superintendent Wiegand spoke about how the new 550 truck has been delivered and how nice it will be when it is all changed over. He went on to discuss how the Harwich Water Department had an old trailer refurbished and how it is almost brand new after the restoration. One thing that will require some thought in the future is getting the vehicles off of the dirt. A couple of quotes came in for paving the area but this project will have to wait until the end of the year. At some point the Harwich Water Department is going to need a place to get the equipment out of the weather. It may be a possibility that the Water Department may even need to move locations one day. The Department is growing and as a result, outgrowing the building. Chairman Thompson added that this would be something that would need to be added to the Capital Outlay Plan. The town does have two parcels of land up on Queen Anne Road. There are many details that would need to be discussed about this idea.

The liens for water account holders who did not pay their water accounts current over the past year have been applied. The totals did go down from \$33,000 to \$27,000.

The meter from 435 Long Pond Drive that was taken out to be tested came back with the results. The results showed that the meter was registering within the standards. This residence had experienced a small drip at the meter and the homeowner felt that this was the reason for his above average fall water bill.

Superintendent Wiegand proposed to abate \$25.00 off of the water bill for 435 Long Pond Drive.

Chairman Thompson motioned to abate \$25.00 off of 435 Long Pond Drive's water bill.

Vice Chairman Gonsalves seconded. 3-0-0

Comptroller Cummings offered to provide any necessary materials for the meeting with the Board of Selectman on December 16, 2013. Selectman Ballantine briefly outlined a few items of importance that would be covered in the meeting. He recommended that a short summary be prepared of the high points for this year along with what is planned for next year. Also, include major capital items as well as information regarding the Open Cape

discussion and a reminder to put in placeholders for any warrant articles that will be submitted. The warrant articles will need to be written by January 6th, 2014.

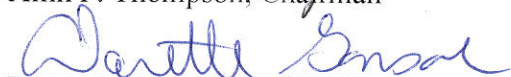
The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17th, 2013.

Chairman Thompson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

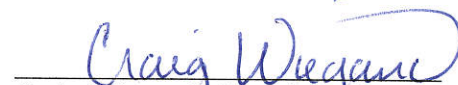
Vice Chairman Gonsalves seconded. 3-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,


Allin P. Thompson, Chairman


Danette Gonsalves, Vice Chairman


Donald T. Bates, Clerk


Craig Wiegand, Superintendent


Tracey Alves, Board Secretary