



LISBON WATER DEPARTMENT

639 Lisbon Road

Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252

Tel. (207) 353-3020 fax (207) 353-3004

Paul A. Adams, General Manager

William A. Bauer, Chairman, & Commissioners Stanley Doughty Jr. & Kenneth R. Wells

Commissioners' Meeting Minutes for March 22, 2010

Members Present: Bill Bauer, Stanley Doughty Jr., and Ken Wells

Staff Present: Paul Adams

Audience: Cathy Robinson of MRWA, Ron and Kevin Partridge, and Town Councilor, Roger Cote

Meeting called to order by Mr. Bauer, at 6:30pm.

I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

A. Water Service for Old Meadow Road

1. Kevin Partridge asked the Commissioners to explain the difficulty of providing water to his new plot on Old Meadow Road in Lisbon. He had requested a quote to tie into the public water supply and has since been told that it would not be possible to tap into the water line on Old Meadow Rd. Therefore, to get connected to the public water supply, he would have to go out to Upland Rd. This would be more expensive, but it would be possible.
 - a. Mr. Bauer explained that the first quote was given prior to the input of all the Water Dept. staff. The information showed that the Water Dept. could not guarantee a problem free water supply, as the original water main was to service fire protection only.
 - b. Mr. Partridge stated that he received a verbal from Mr. Plourde of around \$687 and he was questioning what has changed, as he used this figure as a cost to provide to his financial institution for his mortgage. He is now looking at a \$6,000 increase for the installation of a well.
 - i. Mr. Adams clarified that Mr. Partridge had received a rough verbal estimate and that the process Mr. Plourde was thinking of would not be the ideal process to provide Mr. Partridge with good water.
 - c. Ron Partridge expressed his frustration with the verbal estimate as no one has proof of what transpired. Mr. Adams assured him that the usual process is to do a written estimate and he is not sure what happened with this situation, as he was out on medical leave when the initial request was made.
 - d. Mr. Adams provided a written estimate of \$258.05 for the tap and then a second estimate of \$163.57 for the installation of the meter. Those estimates are for materials and Water Dept. labor only. He stated that it does not include excavation costs or the costs for the service line from Upland Rd to the house.
 - e. Mr. Partridge will notify the Water Dept. of his decision.

B. Rate Case

1. Cathy Robinson from Maine Rural Water Assoc. presented the four options for the Water Rate Increase Case.

- a. Option #1 has full depreciation.
 - b. Option #2 has half the depreciation.
 - c. Option #3 has no depreciation
 - d. Option #4 has full depreciation, but reduces the minimum to 900cf.
2. The Commissioners discussed the issue, but decided to table it to review the information and to find out how many people would be affected by the reduction of the minimum usage. They decided to schedule a special meeting for March 29th to choose which option is the best for the Water Dept.
- C. Mill Street Dam Removal-
- a. Mr. Bauer spoke with a retired engineer and he felt the engineering study would be around \$2,500.
 - b. Mr. Bauer also spoke with Mr. Kelly with ETTI and he said that he could bore through ledge to bury the main.
 - c. Tabled to next Commissioners' Meeting in April.

II. WARRANTS

- A. Warrant 10 for March 10, 2010- Approved
- B. Warrant 11 for March 17, 2010- Approved

III. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Reading and Approval of Minutes:
 - 1. Minutes from March 8, 2010
 - a. Mr. Wells made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Doughty Jr. 2nd the motion followed by a positive unanimous 3/0 vote.
- B. Upland Rd and Route 9 Project
 - 1. E-mails from Town Manager, Town Engineer
 - a. Mr. Adams stated that he received an e-mail from Mr. Leighton, the Town Engineer.
 - i. Mr. Bauer stated that he feels that because the Town is paying for the Route 9 project that Mr. Leighton will be in charge of that project with Water Dept approval of the installation of the new water main.
 - b. The Commissioners discussed the issue and expressed the need to make sure both the Town Engineer and Mr. Adams work together and keep each other informed for the water main installation.
 - c. Mr. Bauer expressed his concern that the water main installation work did not go out to bid, but instead, chose to go with a local company with a very competitive price.
 - i. Mr. Adams stated that MDOT wanted to know if we were going to have a separate contract or utilize their contract.
 - ii. The Commissioners asked Mr. Adams to contact Dirigo Engineering to see which option is best, and if a separate contract would be best, then to get Dirigo Engineering to put together a bid proposal for Upland Rd.
 - d. The Commissioners want to make it clear that they do not want to have to replace pavement, as the original plan was to wait until Upland Road was up for reconstruction and paving to save the cost of repaving.
 - e. Mr. Bauer stated that Mr. Eldridge stated in his e-mail that he felt Mr. Adams had insulted Tony Longchamps at the last coordination meeting when Mr. Adams asked Mr. Longchamps if he knew what he was doing about a certain issue on Wing St. Mr. Adams explained that he asked Mr. Longchamps about the blasting portion of the contract and if he knew what he was doing about it. Mr. Adams stated that he was not questioning Mr. Longchamps ability, but wanted to know if there was a plan in place and was it going to coincide with MDOT's blasting.
 - f. The Dirigo Invoice

- a. Mr. Adams explained that a customer that went away for the winter and chose to leave their water on at the street, called and complained that they were charged the minimum use charge in spite of no water use.
- H. Backflow Tester Training
 - 1. Mr. Adams stated that there is a training course coming up in May in Topsham for \$650 and wanted to know if LWD would be sending anyone.
 - a. He stated that he and the operation supervisor discussed the issue and determined that Mr. Lawton did not have an interest and that Mr. Brunelle may have difficulty passing the exam at the end of the 4 day training, therefore the only candidate left would be Mr. Adams himself.
 - b. The Commissioners discussed the issue.
 - i. Mr. Doughty Jr. made a motion to send Mr. Adams to the backflow testing training in Topsham in May. Mr. Wells 2nd the motion followed by a positive unanimous 3/0 vote.
- I. Lisbon Water Dept. Truck Use Policy
 - 1. Mr. Adams stated that he had an employee request a policy change so that he would be able to keep the LWD truck at home on comp time days off and vacations.
 - 2. The Commissioners discussed the issue and decided to try the change on a trial basis.
 - 3. Mr. Bauer recommended that Mr. Adams take the LWD truck home on Commissioner meeting nights when needed.
 - a. The Commissioners discussed the issue and agreed to allow Mr. Adams to take the truck home on meeting nights when needed on a trial basis.
- J. Tabled Items
 - 1. Wellhead Protection-There is a planning board meeting on March 25th at LCS at 7pm.
 - 2. Dragon Property- Tabled
 - 3. Rate Case-Tabled
 - 4. Pay Increases
- K. Other Old Business
 - 1. None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. General Manager's Report
 - 1. Budget Review
 - a. Mr. Adams presented copies of the budget to date for 2010.
 - b. The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the information.
 - i. The Commissioners asked Mr. Adams to look into the propane contract with the Town and if it would be a benefit for the Water Dept. to go under the Town propane contract or for the Town to utilize the Water Dept. propane contract.
- B. Other New Business
 - 1. None
- C. Next Meeting Date
 - 1. Special Commissioners' Meeting on Monday, March 29, 2010 at 6:30pm
 - 2. The next Regular Commissioners' Meeting date is for Monday, April 12, 2010 at 6:30pm.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Mr. Doughty Jr. made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Wells 2nd the motion followed by a positive unanimous 3/0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.