



## LISBON WATER DEPARTMENT

639 Lisbon Road

Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252

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Paul A. Adams, General Manager

Stanley Doughty Jr., Chairman, James Gurney, & William A. Bauer, Commissioners

### Commissioners' Meeting Minutes for August 27, 2007

Members Present: Stanley Doughty Jr, William Bauer, and James Gurney

Staff Present: Paul Adams

Audience: None

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

#### **I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

A. None

#### **II. WARRANTS**

A. Warrant 33 for August 15, 2007-Approved

B. Warrant 34 for August 22, 2007-Approved

#### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Reading and approval of minutes:

1. Minutes from August 13, 2007

a. Mr. Gurney made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Mr. Bauer. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion with a positive unanimous 3/0 vote.

B. On Call Duty

1. Mr. Gurney wanted to know why they were told by Wright-Pierce during the construction phase of the project that LWD would be able to continue On Call Duty with no change when the Rules stated otherwise.

a. Mr. Adams feels we were advised that way because it is the industry practice, not necessarily the best advice.

2. Mr. Gurney stated that regardless of the advice, we now have to do something different and soon to relieve some of the strain on the staff. He suggested either hire another Class II operator full time or part-time for the weekend shift.

3. Mr. Doughty Jr. asked if we would need to have another rate increase to afford another full-time operator. Mr. Adams stated that we could sustain someone for the remainder of 2007, but not permanently without a rate increase.

4. Mr. Bauer inquired about Mr. Brunelle's test results. Mr. Gurney stated that he did not pass his tests and that they had discussed during the last meeting that LWD policy states that Mr. Brunelle would have until June of 2008 to acquire his Class I license.

5. Mr. Bauer stated that he would like Mr. Adams to find out how other water departments are handling the issue and to consult with MRWA to discuss the issue at a meeting to get some suggestions.

6. Mr. Doughty Jr. stated that there is a list of independent water operators who have contracted themselves out to trailer parks. He said there are 3 or 4 on the list from the Lisbon area.
    - a. Mr. Adams will try to get the list and make some calls.
    - b. Mr. Adams stated that his opinion would be to hire another full time person with at least a Class II license. He stated that we already pay for seasonal help and that it would be more costly, but it would be more to our benefit.
- C. Rate Increase
1. Mr. Doughty Jr. asked about a rate increase. Mr. Bauer stated that he was not ready to go for another rate increase unless we know for sure that we will need a rate increase to afford the fourth full time person.
  2. Mr. Adams stated that in order to keep the next rate increase to a single digit number that we should start the process before we need a double digit increase.
  3. Mr. Gurney also added that we were looking into putting in an additional main from Lisbon to Lisbon Falls, which would be another consideration when determining another rate increase.
  4. Mr. Gurney asked Mr. Adams if he was sure that we would be able to manage with a single digit number increase and Mr. Adams could not guarantee this with the prospect of a fourth full time person. He did say that the meter change-outs are almost complete and that some bonds would be paid off soon, so he is not sure that we will need to exceed a single digit increase. He will know more with research if he is directed to do so.
    - a. Mr. Gurney asked Mr. Adams to proceed with the research.
    - b. Mr. Bauer stated that MRWA has a representative that will be valuable to this process.
    - c. Mr. Adams stated that he recommended seeking the help of MRWA after the auditor has finished with the 2006 financials, hopefully this week.
- D. Wellhead Protection
1. Mr. Adams stated that he had a meeting with the Town Planning Board and they asked to give them until the next meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup> to absorb the info and then they will have more questions. They will have to hold a public hearing on the issue.
  2. Mr. Doughty Jr. asked if we should have someone from the State to help them understand the necessity of protecting their water source. Mr. Adams stated that we should wait to see what issues they may have and go from there.
- E. Arsenic Disposal Issue
1. Mr. Adams stated that Clean Harbors came and emptied the sludge basin and the amount came to just under 8,000 gallons. Unfortunately, more filter media had pumped through to the basin. We removed about four 55 gallon drums of filter media. A field rep for Pur Flow will come with Wright-Pierce to evaluate the situation.
  2. Mr. Gurney asked the cost of the arsenic disposal.
    - a. Mr. Adams stated that the transportation fee is \$400 per truck, \$2,300 for labor and materials, and then \$.50/gal for the sludge. Mr. Adams stated that he expects the total to be around \$7,500.
    - b. Mr. Adams stated that the sludge was not what they expected. They expected it to be thinner, but the final sludge consistency was like pudding. They also didn't expect to be here for 12 hours, so it may cost more next time. They did say that they would probably use different equipment and a different truck and they recommended not waiting as long to pump.

3. Mr. Gurney asked if we would be able to dump to the sewer again and Mr. Adams stated that they are saying that they will not be able to take the sludge again. Mr. Adams stated that they are still having problems with the clarifier.
  - a. The Commissioners requested that Mr. Adams try to get the arsenic test results from the Sewer Dept. to determine whether LWD will be able to dump the sludge into the sewer again.
    - i. The Commissioners are anxious to find out the source for the elevated levels as the Sewer Dept. has not forwarded any further info on the subject.

F. Tabled Items

1. Dragon Property- Tabled
2. Backflow Device Certification-Tabled
3. Executive Session- Waiting on Mr. Simpson from the PUC
4. On Call Duty-Tabled

G. Other Old Business

1. None

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

A. General Manager's Report

1. Mr. Adams stated that he would like to recognize Mr. Lawton for his extra effort in dealing with re-pavement. He has done an excellent job working with Public Works and Crooker to get the material and then he and Mr. Brunelle have done the work, which has saved the Dept. a lot of money.
2. The Commissioners request that Mr. Adams give a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Lawton for his permanent file and treat him to a free breakfast.

B. Other New Business

1. Mr. Doughty Jr. asked if Ms. Turcotte's yard was fixed and Mr. Adams stated that they did fix and reseed the area.
2. Mr. Adams informed the Commissioners that there is a new website for the Town.

**V. NEXT MEETING DATES**

- A. Next Meeting date is for Monday, September 10, 2007 at 6:30pm.

**VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- A. None

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Mr. Bauer made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Gurney 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion followed by an affirmative 3/0 unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.