



LISBON WATER DEPARTMENT

639 Lisbon Road

Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252

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Paul A. Adams, General Manager

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

Commissioners' Meeting Minutes for April 25, 2011

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

Staff Present: Paul Adams

Audience: Larry Gardella, Owner of Adept Screen Printing

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

I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

A. Backflow for Adept Screen-printing

1. Mr. Gardella wanted clarification for the type of backflow and why he needed a different one. He stated that they do not use any cleaning chemicals that would be a hazard.
2. Mr. Bauer deferred the explanation to Mr. Adams.
 - a. Mr. Adams stated that he had spoken with one of the employees at Adept, Randy, and explained the reasons. He said that the nature of the business has the potential to have a high hazard chemicals on site, such as ink and similar chemicals. He also stated that it would be an issue if a hose was connected in their deep sink as it could siphon any chemicals in that sink into the public water supply.
3. Mr. Gardella accepted this explanation and thanked them for their time.

II. WARRANTS

- A. Warrant 13 for March 30, 2011- Approved
- B. Warrant 14 for April 6, 2011- Approved
- C. Warrant 15 for April 13, 2011- Approved
- D. Warrant 16 for April 20 2011- Approved

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Reading and approval of minutes:

1. Minutes from March 28, 2011
 - a. Mr. Wells made a motion to accept the minutes as written for March 28, 2011. Mr. Doughty Jr. 2nd the motion followed by a positive 2/0/1 vote with Mr. Bauer abstaining.

B. Route 196 Reconstruction

1. Mr. Adams stated that he had received an e-mail from the Town Engineer which stated that they would not be working on Route 196 reconstruction this year.
2. The Commissioners discussed the issue, but took no action.

C. Credit Card

1. Mr. Adams inquired if the Commissioners were going to consider using Invoice Cloud for online payments etc.

2. Mr. Bauer stated that Sam Evrard is no longer with Northern Data Systems, but that he now works for Invoice Cloud.
 3. The Commissioners discussed the issue and asked Mr. Adams to contact the new representative from Northern Data to confirm costs and options. They also wanted to get some feedback from customers.
- D. 2010 Bond Money Investment
1. Mr. Adams stated that he has not heard anything from Merrill Lynch yet.
 2. Mr. Bauer stated the he would contact them again.
 3. Mr. Adams stated that he sent a letter to Peter Garcia, the bond attorney, to clarify that the remaining funds could be used for a new standpipe.
 4. The Commissioners discussed the issue and will await Mr. Garcia's response.
- E. Potential Standpipe on Upland Rd
1. Mr. Adams asked the Commissioners if they wanted to proceed with the standpipe on Upland Rd.
 2. The Commissioners discussed the issue, and they asked Mr. Adams to contact Dirigo Engineering to come to a meeting to explore more options.
- F. PurFlow Filtration Plant Issue
1. Mr. Adams stated that Wright-Pierce sent the letter to PurFlow with regards to their review of the PurFlow recommendations and Mr. Adams has not heard back from Wright-Pierce yet.
 2. Mr. Adams stated that he has tried to contact PurFlow concerning the shipment of more filter media, but has not heard back yet. He stated that he also tried to contact the new filter plant management in Dover, New Hampshire to see when they expected to get their media, but was unable to contact anyone.
 3. Mr. Bauer asked if we should contact Jeff Musich to get some feedback.
 - a. Mr. Adams stated that he would contact Mr. Musich and let Mr. Williamson know what we are doing and that we are pretty frustrated.
 4. Mr. Bauer asked if we should delay the spring hydrant flushing with the filter media being so low and Mr. Adams stated that if we are going to lose more then it will happen after as well as before. He did not see a good reason to delay and that it may help some of the dirty water issues.
 5. The Commissioners discussed the issue, and will wait for more information from Wright-Pierce.
- G. Tabled Items
1. Wellhead Protection Ordinance
 - a. No new information
- H. Other Old Business
1. Mr. Grinder's Hot Water Heater Compensation
 - a. Mr. Bauer stated that he read the minutes from the last meeting and stated that he did not think we should compensate for a 23 year old water heater.
 - b. Mr. Wells stated he had done some research and felt that Mr. Grinder was fortunate to have the heater as long as he did.
 - c. The Commissioners discussed the issue and send their apologies for the inconveniences to the Grinder family but the precedent was set that unless LWD was negligent then the Water Dept. does not compensate for homeowner's personal property.
 - d. Mr. Bauer made a motion that there would not be any compensation for the loss of Mr. Grinder's water heater as they could not acknowledge that the Water Dept. did anything negligent to cause the damage. Mr. Wells 2nd the motion followed by a positive 3/0 vote.

2. Blue Ridge Fiberboard Complaint
 - a. Mr. Wells stated that, while Mr. Bauer was on vacation, he received an e-mail from the Town Manager about a complaint from Blue Ridge Fiberboard claiming that we were being unfair to them with regards to the backflow preventor issue. He stated that he came to the office and discussed the issue with Mr. Adams and felt that there was no cause for complaint. Mr. Wells stated that he went to the Town office to speak to Mr. Eldridge, but he was in a meeting. He said that he left a message for Mr. Eldridge to contact him, but he has not heard back. He stated that according to Mr. Adams that it was Blue Ridge Fiberboard's decision to turn off the water rather than make the necessary repairs to the backflow device. Mr. Adams confirmed this and further stated that he had given them a lot of leeway to make the repairs as they should have been shut off much sooner.
3. Lisbon Water Dept. Website
 - a. Mr. Wells asked if we were going to solicit bids to create a new Water Dept. website.
 - b. Mr. Adams stated that he thought we left it that we were going to work with Mr. Leighton on our current site linked with the Town's website.
 - c. The Commissioners discussed the issue and decided to solicit bids for an independent website.
4. Arsenic Testing of Raw Water
 - a. Mr. Wells asked if the staff was still testing the arsenic levels of the raw well water.
 - b. Mr. Adams stated that he was not sure, but he would find out.
 - c. Mr. Wells said that it would be beneficial if the level was still below the limit.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. General Manager's Report

1. ETTI's Gravel Pit
 - a. Mr. Adams stated that last Friday he had driven by the gravel pit now owned by ETTI and noticed that they were moving dirt on the site, so he went and spoke to the Town Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Cote, about his concerns. He said that Cote must have gone to speak with Mr. Kelly, the owner, about Mr. Adams concerns. He said that Mr. Kelly must have been upset by this as he went and saw the Town Manager and then came to the Water Dept. and was accusing Mr. Adams of stirring things up and threatened Mr. Adams job. Mr. Adams explained to Mr. Kelly that he was looking out for the Lisbon Water Dept's interest and protecting the public water supply; and that he had no authority to address Mr. Kelly, as he must go through the code enforcement office if he has concerns.
 - b. Mr. Wells stated that he received an e-mail from the Town Manager about this issue. Mr. Wells would like to see a moratorium added to any permits being issued to this wellhead zone until the new Wellhead Protection Ordinance is passed.
 - c. The Commissioners stated that they felt Mr. Adams acted appropriately.
 - d. The Commissioners discussed the issue and Mr. Bauer asked Mr. Wells to respond to Mr. Eldridge requesting a workshop with the Council and with Mr. Kelly to discuss this issue as well as others that have come up recently.
2. Budget Review
 - a. Mr. Adams presented a copy of the most recent budget report for 2011.
 - i. Mr. Adams will solicit bids from supplier for propane for the upcoming winter season.
 - b. The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the information.

3. Seasonal Help for 2011
 - a. Mr. Adams inquired about hiring seasonal help for the summer of 2011.
 - b. Mr. Bauer recommended called Mr. Craig the employee that was laid off last fall and if he was not available then to place an ad in the paper.
4. Northern Data Systems Letter
 - a. Mr. Adams presented the letter stating the Mr. Evrard had left NDS and is now working with Invoice Cloud and that our new representative with NDS would be Aaron Stevens.
5. Customer Communication Log
 - a. Mr. Adams briefed the Commissioners about the complaint about damage from the main break on Booker St. Mr. Adams referred the customer to contact their insurance company or their landlord. He stated that he has not heard anything further from him.
 - b. The Commissioners reviewed the log that had three pages of dirty water complaints and stated that this is one more reason to engage Mr. Musich in the filter plant issue.
 - c. Mr. Wells asked if we make any recommendations for customers for water filters or where to position them.
 - d. Mr. Adams stated that we do not make recommendations for in home water filters, that we let the customer pursue this through a licensed plumber.
- B. Other New Business
 1. Motion for discussion to pursue changing the Lisbon Water Dept to an independent water district.
 - a. Mr. Doughty Jr. made a motion for discussion to pursue changing the Lisbon Water Dept. to an independent water district. Mr. Bauer 2nd the motion followed by discussion.
 - i. Mr. Wells asked for clarification of the difference and Mr. Bauer and Mr. Doughty Jr. explained that the Water Dept would no longer be dependent on the Town, but independently on its own. They explained that it must go to the Town for a referendum vote for the people to decide.
 - b. Mr. Bauer recommended a fact finding meeting with MRWA to explain the process, costs, benefits, losses, etc.
 - c. Mr. Bauer called for a vote for the discussion to pursue changing the Lisbon Water Dept to an independent water district with a positive unanimous 3/0 vote.
- C. Next Meeting Date
 1. The next Commissioners' Meeting date is for Monday, May 9, 2011 at 6:30pm at the Lisbon Water Dept.

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 7:45pm.