

NORTH SAGAMORE WATER DISTRICT MEETING
MINUTES FROM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017

The North Sagamore Water District Board of Water Commissioners meeting was held on Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 4:15 pm at 14 Squanto Road, Sagamore Beach, MA. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson George Sala at 4:15 pm.

The following individuals were present at the start of the meeting: Chairperson George Sala, Commissioner Mark Melchionda, Commissioner Mark Bergeron, Superintendent Matt Sawicki, Assistant Superintendent Geoff Ray, Treasurer Maureen Fruci, District resident Stephen Mealy and Property Manager Chris Ellis.

APPT. 4:15 – DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE OF INACTIVE ACCOUNT – 15 FISHER LANE

Chris Ellis, property manager for 15 Fisher Lane, appeared before the Board representing the owners of 15 Fisher Lane. In December a leak was discovered on an irrigation system at 15 Fisher Lane. When the District went out to investigate the problem it was discovered the service had been inactive in the District's system since 2003. No bills had been issued since that time. However, at some point the service was turned back on and has used over 3,000,000 gallons of water with no bills issued. Mr. Ellis said the homeowner stated he contacted the District because he was concerned his bills were very low. The District has no record of this. The meter has been tested and is accurate. Commissioner Melchionda asked Mr. Ellis to provide the Board with more information about the irrigation system. The Board explained it is ultimately the responsibility of the homeowner to notify the District if their meter hasn't been read. However, they are willing to work with the homeowner to come up with a fair solution to the situation.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES DATED 1/19/17

Commissioner Melchionda made a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated 1/19/17 as written. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion was accepted.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE ON BLACK POND WELL REDEVELOPMENT CONTRACT

Superintendent Sawicki presented the Board with the three quotes for the Black Pond well redevelopment project. Denis L. Maher had the lowest price of \$13,700, Maher Services - \$16,740 and Weston & Sampson - \$28,789. The Superintendent recommended the District use Denis L. Maher. Commissioner Melchionda made the motion to accept the bid of \$13,700 from Denis L. Maher for the redevelopment of Black Pond well. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor.

DISCUSSION OF NORRIS ROAD TANK PROJECT

Superintendent Sawicki informed the Board the estimate for the Norris Road tank project came in lower than expected at a total cost of \$741,600. The District has funds available between free cash, the stabilization account and money from capital articles so there will be no need to borrow for this project. The Board was concerned about taking too much money from the stabilization fund and free cash. They suggested borrowing some funds in order to establish a

track record for borrowing. Mr. Mealy suggested the District establish a policy for maintaining the stabilization account and free cash using a percentage of the operating budget. The Board recommended contacting the District's financial advisor. Commissioner Sala asked to put the Norris Road tank project on the next meeting agenda.

Superintendent Sawicki met with Attorney Troy regarding the site plan for the Norris Road project. All easements are in place. Attorney Troy suggested the District do a confirmation of the easement. The Board discussed several issues on the plan including a shed on District property and a fence which needs to be moved. Commissioner Sala asked the Superintendent to contact Concannon Fence to get a price. A meeting will be held on Thursday, March 16 at 6:00 pm for abutters of the Norris Road tank followed by the regular monthly meeting at 7:00 pm.

DISCUSSION OF FY18 BUDGET AND CAPITAL ARTICLES

The Board reviewed the proposed FY18 budget and articles. Superintendent Sawicki explained there will be a few adjustments to the budget if the District borrows for the Norris Road tank project. There was a discussion about the possibility the District will have to pay taxes on the solar array. The Superintendent said the contract states any taxes on the array are Green Seal's responsibility. Commissioner Melchionda suggested the District Clerk's salary should be raised to \$450. Health insurance rates have increased by 10%.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Sawicki informed the Board Assistant Superintendent Ray has been working on the Black Pond emergency treatment plant project and almost all the work has been done in house. The District received a large bill from Nstar after the meter fire at Black Pond well because of a meter malfunction. Nstar is researching the bill. Superintendent Sawicki asked the Board to review the scope of services for the emergency water works repair contract to ensure everything is included. Commissioner Sala suggested the Superintendent look into the county register at the Barnstable County procurement office. They have an approved list of contractors to choose from. Commissioner Sala will send the contact information to the Superintendent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Fruci informed the Board there are 465 accounts with outstanding balances from the January water bills. Reminder letters will be sent on 2/28/17. The Treasurer discussed opening two new accounts - a revolving account and a road repairs account. She has contacted Auditor Bob Bliss for assistance. There was a discussion regarding the rise in health care premiums and the new health savings account plan the District may offer to employees next fiscal year.

ANY OLD/NEW BUSINESS THAT MAY LEGALLY COME BEFORE THE BOARD

None

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/SELECT NEXT MEETING DATE

The date for the next monthly meeting is Thursday, March 16th - 6:00 pm for the abutters meeting and 7:00 pm for the regular monthly meeting.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Melchionda made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 pm. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Fruci, District Clerk