

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Board of Water Commissioners met in open session on Tuesday, April 2, 2019. The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Westfield Municipal Building, room 201.

Those in attendance were: Water Commissioners Ron Cole (Chairman); Joseph Popielarczyk (Member); Assistant Director Francis Cain; Water Systems Engineer Heather Stayton; Deputy Superintendent Steve Fernandes; Recording Secretary Hannah Larkham

The meeting was being recorded by Office Manager Hannah Larkham.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Kristen Mello of 27 Moseley Ave was present at the meeting and had three questions for the Board that she was hoping to get some answers. Her first question was all site plan improvements for any aquifers are supposed to be approved by this Board, she was curious to know if any has come forward and how the process is going. Commissioner Cole stated that at this time no site plans had been presented to the Board so he couldn't answer the question in full.

Her next question was in regards to the incident at Well 1. The NOR had a lack of information about the length of discharge, what the next physical steps would be by the Department. Water Systems Engineer Heather Stayton replied stating the Department is currently working with LSP to follow all appropriate protocol. There was an issue with the containment at Well 1 which is currently and has not been active. One of the regular drinking water additives storage tanks had created a leak of some sort. The Department called in the appropriate people to come in and help with the clean-up. During the clean-up is when the issue in the secondary containment was located. The Department has been in contact with Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and LSP to resolve this issue so it will not happen in the future.

Her final question was how she would go about requesting monitoring wells for plume characterizations around the discharge of high expansion foam at 156 & 158 Union St. Water System Engineer Heather Stayton stated she doesn't know anything about that property on Union St, she is unaware of who owns the property. If someone is seeking to install monitors on the property, we would need to establish ownership. Heather cannot speak any further on the issue until more information is made available.

Patricia and Michael Janke of 7 Furrowtown Rd were present at the meeting. Patricia brought to the Board a recent leak at the water service line that services their property and four other houses. The Water Department was called out to turn the water off and see what the issue was. It was determined that the leak was on their service line and the homeowners would be responsible for any repairs. Unfortunately the service line is not only theirs, but they were stuck with the \$2,000 bill to fix it for themselves and everyone else. Patricia wanted some clarification as to what the water line that everyone is connected to is called. She wasn't sure if it is considered a water main, a communication line, or a service line.

Commissioner Cole stated that the City is only responsible for the water main to the curb stop. The curb stop for this service line is on Montgomery Rd. Patricia and Michael are looking to see how this issue will be resolved and if they would be able to be reimbursed the money it cost them to fix the line. Assistant Director Fran Cain spoke on the matter stating the Department is aware of the issue up at Furrowtown Rd and they are looking to extend the main on Furrowtown Rd to allow the properties to disconnect from the existing service line and connect to the new main. This in turn will create individual service lines for all. From looking at past history, Fran could only guess that when the land was subdivided, the owners installed a service line that allowed all the houses to connect to the water. If this was brought to the Board today, this process would not be approved. The current resolution is to help these properties get their own service lines and disconnect the current. The Department will be in touch with the neighbors to keep them informed of the project.

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## **AGENDA ITEMS:**

### **Pineridge Drive Sanitary Sewer Improvements- Change Order #2**

City Engineer Mark Cressotti presented to the Board Change Order 2 for the Pineridge Drive Sanitary Sewer Improvements. This change order will cover professional services that are required for review of bid documents, submissions and schedules as well as construction observations.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Popielarczyk* to approve Pineridge Drive Sanitary Sewer Improvements Change Order # 2 to be awarded to Tighe & Bond in the amount of \$78,000. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cole. Motion approved.

### **Pineridge Drive Sanitary Sewer Improvements- Change Order #5**

City Engineer Mark Cressotti presented to the Board Change Order 5 for the Pineridge Drive Sanitary Sewer Improvements. This change order will cover professional services required for bid documents, submissions and schedules.

*Motion was made by Commissioner Popielarczyk* to approve Pineridge Drive Sanitary Sewer Improvements Change Order #5 to be awarded to RLA Associates in the amount of \$22,500. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cole. Motion approved.

**Overtime Reports:** Commissioner Cole had a question about the billable column on the reports. Office Manager Hannah Larkham explained to the Board when a tech is sent out on a call and it requires labor/supplies on the departments end, we will in turn bill the resident for any costs. This column is to let the Board know anytime the department will be seeking funds.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

*Motion made by Commissioner Popielarczyk* to approve the minutes as written for March 5, 2019 meeting of the Board of Water Commission. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cole. Motion approved.

### **Project Updates**

The meter project currently has 2,623 meters installed. The contractor has three crews out daily installing 20-25 meters.

The concrete floor for Wells 7 & 8 has been poured. The four carbon vessels were delivered and installed yesterday and today. The building structure can now begin. The water to customers is projected sometime mid-summer.

The Department is actively sampling the vessel at Well 2. A sample is pulled about every three weeks once we have received the previous results. The reports have been coming back with non-detect which has been the goal of the Department. Well 2 is the only active well on the North side of Westfield. The draw from the wells has been low this past winter, but the Department does expect it to pick up within the next few months.

The Water Treatment Plant on Dry Bridge is at 60% design. The Department is looking to start the permitting process and neighborhood outreach soon. The expected time for the bid to go out is later this year.

The turbine production is 400 to 500 KWH daily.

The water level at the reservoir is currently full and is going over the flashboards.

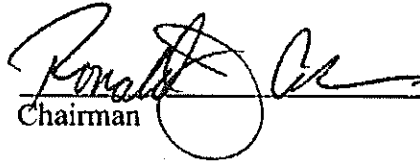
East Mountain Tank Replacement is still at 90% design. Once the Department is confident of the delivery of water from Wells 7 & 8 to customers, the bid will go out for East Mountain. The construction is expected to begin in the fall.

The City has received a grant in the amount of \$396,000.00 for the Tekoa Dam Removal. Once the grant is accepted by the Council, the project construction will go out to bid. The grant will be going for its second read to Council this Thursday. It is expected to be completed by next summer.


The next meeting of the Board of Water Commission meeting will be on Tuesday, May 7, 2019

**Adjourn**

Motion made by Commissioner Popielarczyk to adjourn; Motion seconded by Commissioner Cole, Motion approved. ADJOURN: 8:10 P.M.

  
Chairman

Secretary

  
Member

