



TOWN OF HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

500 PLYMOUTH STREET
HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS 02338
TELEPHONE 781/293-1733
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MEETING MINUTES April 11, 2023

5:00 p.m. Daniel Bosworth made a motion to open the meeting.
Seconded by Richard Clark

Motion Passes

Present: Richard Clark, Chairman
Daniel O. Bosworth, Jr., Clerk
Bill Lindsay, Superintendent
Kathleen O'Neil, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Donald Bosworth, Commissioner

Meeting Minutes

There were no minutes available to approve.

Plants Upgrade Bid Results

Bill reported that only one general contractor bid on the water plants upgrade project. The bid came in one million dollars over the last bid at \$2.9 million. The winning bid was awarded to WES Construction. The bid covers the upgrades for both plants. The Town Administrator will put the full amount of the bid on the Annual Town Meeting warrant. The plan is to apply for a bond for the difference between what was already allocated and the project total. See the attached 'canvas of bids.'

Discussion – Hilda Lane

Property owner Scott Burgess was in attendance to personally request permission to install a 2-inch water line versus the required 4-inch line. Mr. Burgess showed the commissioners a set of engineered plans that show the four house lots that were originally planned. Unfortunately, that plan cannot be worked out. Mr. Burgess plans to shorten the road and create two house lots instead of four. Each lot will consist of eleven acres. The property is not yet subdivided. Dick is concerned that abutters will want to hook into town water and a 2-inch line would not be able to handle it.

The road is 488-feet which Danny feels warrants the installation of a fire hydrant. Mr. Burgess argued that it is under the 500-foot requirement of the Fire Department who said that they are fine with no hydrant on the street. Mr. Burgess stated if a hydrant is required it will "kill the project."

Mr. Burgess would like to install a 2-inch water line but will put in a 3-inch line if the commissioners are worried about the abutting neighbors. Mr. Burgess mentioned a 100-foot road was installed by Alan Dias without a hydrant and the Water Commission approved it.

Discussion – Hilda Lane

Dick said the potential of the two abutters wanting to connect to town water is very likely. Danny stated he does not like the proposed 3-inch line for the house lots and stated that the rules and regulations don't even list a price for a 3-inch water line as it's not given as an option. Mr. Burgess plans to develop the road so he can just sell the two lots. Dick argued that having a hydrant on the street will increase the value of the lots and decrease insurance costs.

Again, Dick and Dan expressed their concerns with allowing a 3-inch water line. They will hold off deciding on this until Mr. Burgess considers everything and has further discussions with the appropriate town boards and permitting authorities.

Discussion – Bylaws

Dick stated that he wants to look into revising the town bylaws requiring a fire hydrant for a 500-foot road to include "or at the Water Commissioners discretion." Kathy will look into it.

Discussion – Tata & Howard

Bill informed the commissioners that Robert Simms is no longer employed by Tata & Howard. Jon Gregory said he will be available to them if they have any questions about the bids and/or upgrade plans. Bill has not been informed on who Roberts's replacement will be.

Bill believes the bid has a 5% contingency built into it. Dick is uncomfortable with asking to borrow \$2.9 million when we already have a large chunk of that amount. He would like to avoid having to raise water rates.

Discussion – 337 River Street

The homeowner called about connecting to town water and questioned if they already paid the entrance fee. Bill and Kathy found nothing in the records that show a payment made at the time water was installed on that street (circa 1991). Bill is to inform the homeowner that he must pay the standard entrance fees.

Discussion – June Meeting Date

Kathy cannot attend the regularly scheduled June meeting and asked the board if they would like to reschedule. Dick said to put this topic on the next agenda so that he can confirm his June travel dates.

Discussion – Superintendent Updates

The water tank was cleaned last week. There was only 2-inches of sediment. The entire job was done in one day. Bill also stated that the staff will begin town wide flushing next week.

Discussion – Sanitary Survey

Bill told the Commissioners that the sanitary survey went really well. DEP wants an injection permit for the engine in the floor or to cap it. Bill had to label chemical reports and clear brush near well 2. That was pretty much it.

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Adjournment

6:45 p.m. Daniel Bosworth made a motion to adjourn.
Seconded by Richard Clark

Motion Passes

Approved,


Daniel Bosworth, Clerk