

**TOWN OF JAMESTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**
for
TOWN, WATER AND SEWER MATTERS

Monday, June 20, 2011

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners was called to order at the Jamestown Town Hall, Council Chambers, 93 Narragansett Avenue at 6:01 PM by Commission President Michael Schnack. The following members were present:

Robert Bowen, Vice-President
William H. Murphy
Michael G. White
Ellen Winsor

Also present were:

Bruce R. Keiser, Town Administrator
Peter D. Ruggiero Esq., Town Solicitor
Michael Gray PE Town Engineer/Public Works Director
Christina D. Collins, Finance Director
Justin Jobin, Environmental Scientist / GIS Coordinator
Denise Jennings, Water and Sewer Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING

Motion was made by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Commissioner Murphy to open the public hearing at 6:04 PM. So unanimously voted.

- 1) Proposed draft of the Cross-Connection Control Plan amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Water Commissioners; duly advertised for public hearing in the Jamestown Press on 06/09/11

Commission President Schnack stated that a few administrative charges were discussed at the last Water and Sewer meeting in May, fees have been added and numbering has been corrected. This amendment is due to a requirement by the State of RI, Department of Health.

No Commission members requested to speak on the amendments. No members of the public requested to speak on the amendments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Commissioner Murphy to close the public hearing at 6:06 PM. So unanimously voted.

Motion was made by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner White to approve the amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Water Commissioners; as presented and duly advertised in the Jamestown Press on 06/09/11. So unanimously voted.

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

(None)

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1) 05/16/11 (regular meeting)

Commissioner Murphy referred to Page 20, specifically the 4th paragraph from the bottom and stated that he would like the paragraph to read as follows:

Commissioner Murphy stated that the Commission needs some sort of rationale and need to review data, prior to increasing Public Fire Protection. Commissioner Murphy requested a copy of the studies and backup reports. The Finance Director stated that the Town has only committed to an additional \$25,000 at this point, not the additional \$100,000. The Finance Director and Commission President Schnack agreed that this discussion is only work in progress and will continue for the budget process.

Motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Bowen to accept the 05/16/11 (regular) meeting minutes as amended. So unanimously voted.

OPEN FORUM

1) Scheduled requests to address:

(None)

2) Non-Scheduled requests to address:

(None)

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICIALS

1) **Pumping Report:** (See Project Update Report dated May 2011)

(No report given)

2) **Town project reports:** (See Project Update Report dated May 2011)

Treatment Plant:

The Public Works Director reported the following:

- o AMTech repainted sections of the inside of the filter tanks. The tanks were stripped to metal and refinished. It appears as though moisture had entered the containment through a drain pipe for the tank during the first application and the paint did not adhere to the steel properly.
- o Currently collecting lead and copper samples for our bi-annual testing requirements.
- o The Water Department has been working on the extension of the water main to 113/115 Melrose Avenue, as previously approved by the Commission and that upon the opening of the roadway there appeared to be a leak that was also repaired during the extension. Working with two other property owners that are also connected to the old water service to have them tie into the new water line, so that the Town can abandon the old pipe.

Mr. Gray referred to the Water Distribution Improvements to Meet Fire Flow Deficiencies Report prepared by Fay, Spofford and Thorndike in 2003. The Commission stated that they did not have a copy of the report. The Public Works Director stated that he had included a copy of the Water Distribution Improvements to Meet Fire Flow Deficiencies Report in the Commissions packet in May.

Commission consensus: To continue this matter to the next Water and Sewer meeting on 07/18/11 and to ask the Clerk to provide a copy in the next meeting packet.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

(None)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1) Discussion re: **Water Distribution Improvements to Meet Fire Flow Deficiencies Report** prepared by Fay, Spofford and Thorndike (continued from 05/16/11)
Discussion continued to the next Water and Sewer meeting on 07/18/11.

2) Discussion re: **General Rate Study** (continued from 05/16/11)
The Finance Director stated that a question had come up at the last Water and Sewer meeting in May regarding the number of customers only paying the Minimum in Advance and the number of customers who do not exceed the 5000 gallon minimum. The Finance Director further stated that she has provided a worksheet in the Commissions packet, with a breakdown of all customers by property type and by gallons. The Finance Director briefly outlined the worksheet. Following brief discussion it was the consensus of the Commission to ask to the Finance Director to further breakdown the number customers in the 0-5000 gallon range for the next Water and Sewer meeting on 07/18/11.

NEW BUSINESS

1) **Application of Rodney P. Thomas** c/o Rodney M. Thomas (8 Arnold Street; Plat 12, Lot 57) for **utility service connection**

The Public Works Director stated that the application speaks for itself. The lot is 6000 square feet and there is not enough separation between the septic system and the private well and Town water does run by this property and is available. Commissioner Murphy expressed his concerns regarding the build-out and the water availability for these properties that the Town is required by law to supply water to. Commissioner Murphy further stated that he is hesitant to approve this application until he is sure that the Town has enough water.

Commission President Schnack asked the Public Works Director if there is enough water to meet the Town's build-out. The Public Works Director stated that this matter is currently still under review by the Planning Department. Town Administrator Keiser agreed and stated that the build-out is part of the Comprehensive Plan analysis, which is due to be completed in the next few months. The Town Administrator stated that he will discuss this matter with the Town Planner.

Commission President Schnack asked if the Commission is required to approve/allow a water hook-up that is not in the urban water district. The Public Works Director stated that approximately a year ago, the Commission approved another application for a water hook-up on the same street.

Brief discussion ensued, regarding the Comprehensive Plan and the Safe Yield Study done by Fay, Spofford and Thorndike. The Public Works Director stated that he would contact Chris Yannoni from FST to discuss the possibility of updating the Safe Yield Study.

Commission President Schnack asked the applicant what she was using currently for water. Mrs. Thomas stated that the well is being used, but on occasion she has had problems with the well and that it is a health and safety risk and there is a separation issue.

Discussion ensued regarding the State cesspool phase-out.

Commissioner Winsor stated that this is a health and safety issue and the Commission should approve the application.

Commissioner Murphy stated that he will support this application, but will not support another application until he receives data pertaining to the build-out.

Following clarification of a few additional items, motion was made by Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner White to approve the application of Rodney P. Thomas c/o Rodney M. Thomas (8 Arnold Street; Plat 12, Lot 57) for utility service connection, subject to all fees as outlined on the application by the Public Works Director. So unanimously voted.

2) Application of the Town of Jamestown (Narragansett Avenue; Plat 8, Lot 530) for **utility service connection**

Following clarification of a few items, Commission President Schnack recommended that the application be approved and that the connection fees be waived. Commission consensus: To ask the Town Administrator to draft a memorandum requesting that the connection fees be waived for the next Water and Sewer meeting on 07/18/11. Commissioner Winsor expressed her concerns regarding the application. Motion was made by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Commissioner White to approve the application of the Town of Jamestown (Narragansett Avenue; Plat 8, Lot 530) for utility service connection. Motion so voted, 4 in favor; Commissioner Winsor opposed.

BILLS AND PAYROLL

Following clarification of a few items, motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Bowen to approve the Water and Sewer Division Bills and Payroll dated 06/20/11. So unanimously voted.

TOWN BUSINESS

(None scheduled)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, motion was made by Commissioner Bowen, seconded by Commissioner White to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Denise Jennings
Water and Sewer Clerk

xc: Commission Members (5)
Town Administrator
Town Solicitor
Public Works Director
Town Clerk