

**TOWN OF JAMESTOWN
BOARD OF
WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

Monday, November 18, 2002

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners was called to order at the Jamestown Philomenian Library, Conference Room, 26 North Road at 7:02 PM by Commission President Guy Settipane. The following members were present:

David Swain, Vice-President
Kenneth G. Littman
Norma Willis

Also present were:

Maryanne Crawford, CPA, Town Administrator
Steven J. Goslee, Public Works Director
Denise Jennings, Assistant Finance Director/Water and Sewer Clerk

Absent at roll call:

David Long, Commissioner

Absent:

Douglas DiSimone, Esq., Town Solicitor

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1) 09/16/02 (regular meeting) (continued from 10/21/02)
Commissioners Willis and Littman stated that they could not vote on the 09/16/02 meeting minutes; they were not present at said meeting. Ms. Crawford suggested that the Commission set the minutes aside until Commissioner Long is present. Commissioner Willis: Will Commissioner Long be present? Ms. Crawford: I haven't heard contrary to that.

2) 10/21/02 (regular meeting)
Commissioner Swain stated that he could not vote on the 10/21/02 meeting minutes; he was not present at said meeting.
Motion was made by Commissioner Littman, seconded by Commissioner Willis to accept the minutes of 10/21/02. Motion so voted, 3 in favor; Commissioner Swain abstained.

7:05 PM: Commissioner Long arrived.

Commission President Settipane: Now that Commissioner Long is present, we can vote on the acceptance of the 09/16/02 minutes. Motion was made by Commission President Settipane, seconded by Commissioner Swain to accept the minutes of 09/16/02. Motion so voted, 3 in favor; Commissioners Littman and Willis abstained.

3) 10/30/02 (workshop)
Commissioner Long stated that he could not vote on the 10/30/02 workshop minutes; he was not present at said meeting.
Motion was made by Commission President Settipane, seconded by Commissioner Swain to accept the workshop minutes of 10/30/02. Motion so voted, 4 in favor; Commissioner Long abstained.

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICIALS

1) **Pumping Report:**

Mr. Goslee reported the following:

- Pumping was up for the month of October and that it was due to a water main break found on Bayview Drive. The break has been repaired and pumping numbers have dropped.
- Reservoir level was down 36 inches as of last Thursday.
- Had 3 inches of rain this past weekend; which brings the reservoir level to 33 inches.
- Stopped pumping from South Pond.
- Turbidity (color) is getting better.

2) **Town project reports**

Town Wells:

Mr. Goslee reported the following:

- All wells have been shut down for the winter; pipes are above ground. Will resume use of wells in June 2003.
- JR-6-George Gifford is working on the permit with CRMC.

North/South Pipeline:

Mr. Goslee reported that PAL has completed all test pits and that no artifacts have been found.

Aeration System:

Mr. Goslee reported that the system is down for the winter and that Dr. Kortman is reviewing the possibility of adding another compressor.

Beavertail Road water line replacement:

Mr. Goslee reported that drainage projects will be started within the next month and that during the off time this winter they will work on the water line replacement.

Expansion of South Pond:

Mr. Goslee reported the following:

- He will be meeting with Warren Hall for a site visit and that Mr. Hall will be doing the design for the new spillway and the drainage calculations. He will also do the landscape topography for the west side South Pond to determine how much soil would need to be moved and will determine the cost.
- South Pond is full (overflowing).

Commissioner Willis asked Mr. Goslee for clarification regarding the limited usage of the wells. Mr. Goslee reported that permitting for the wells was for summer use, the pipes are above ground and that he could obtain further permitting to use the wells in the winter.

Commissioner Willis asked for the status of the bids for the north/south pipeline. Ms. Crawford reported that once the Town receives final approval from NCRS the Town will then put it out to bid and that the archeological study slowed the process. Mr. Goslee reported that the engineering for the bid specifications is complete and that the Town was waiting for the archeological study to be completed before expending additional money to complete the bid package.

Commissioner Willis asked Mr. Goslee for clarification regarding the cost and the location of the additional compressor for the aeration system. Mr. Goslee stated that it would be a small air compressor to go in the new shed at the North Reservoir. Commissioner Willis asked Mr. Goslee for clarification regarding an archeological survey for the Beavertail Road water line replacement. Mr. Goslee stated that federal money would not be used and an archeological survey would not be required. Commission President Settipane asked Mr. Goslee if the Town had an internal policy

regarding this issue. Mr. Goslee stated that if the Town finds something, it has a notification process where the Narragansett Indians and the Medical Examiner are contacted.

Commissioners Willis and Swain asked for clarification the lengthy permitting process for JR-6. Mr. Goslee reported that he anticipated that the permitting process would be complete in December.

The Commission asked for clarification on a few additional items as reported by Mr. Goslee.

Sewer Plant Rehabilitation:

Ms. Crawford reported the following:

- Slip lining of the pipe started in early November and is ongoing.
- They are currently working 10 days on and 4 days off. Many of the workers come from out of state and that all is going extremely well.
- The manhole rehabilitation project will start this winter.

The Commission asked for clarification on a few items as reported by Siegmund and Associates, Inc. monthly report. Ms. Crawford referred to item #1 entitled “Issues that need to be addressed by the Town of Jamestown” as reported by Siegmund & Associates, Inc. For clarification, Ms. Crawford stated that she has never reported that the referendum would be scheduled for the fall of 2002. Ms. Crawford reported that the Town has asked for an opinion from Bond Counsel and that this issue will be on the agenda for the next Town Council meeting on 11/25/02.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None scheduled

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None scheduled

NEW BUSINESS

1) Review rate schedule-specifically Town of Jamestown vs. Block Island (*per Commissioner Swain*)

Commissioner Swain stated that he asked that this issue be placed on the agenda to demonstrate the difference in how much one island is paying for water vs. another island. Commissioner Swain reported on and suggested the following:

- Town needs to review rates.
- If the Town is realistic about upgrading their water system and at the same time are encouraging people to be conservative or use and pay for it, that they need to generate more revenue.
- Remove the minimum and have a flat fee such as \$25.00 to be a part of the water system.
- Charge for every gallon that goes into a house.
- Tier the rates a bit more aggressively than they are presently tiered.
- Substantial money is paid on Block Island to use water.

Following discussion regarding Commissioner Swain’s suggestions and funding for future capital improvement projects, Commission consensus was to place discussion of water rates on all future water and sewer meeting agendas.

2) Review next step for desalinization plan (*per Commissioner Swain*)

Commissioner Swain reported that the Water Study Committee has been doing research and studying the option of desalinization for a number of years and stated that the Committee has discovered two new potential sites to drill. He further stated that he would like the Water Department to drill new test holes. Mr. Goslee stated that the Town would need a maintenance permit from CRMC. Commission consensus: To allow the Public Works Director to choose a site, get CRMC permit and to discuss the issue of desalinization with George Gifford and to move forward. Commission consensus: To place discussion of desalinization plan on all future water and sewer meeting agendas.

BILLS AND PAYROLL

Motion was made by Commissioner Littman, seconded by Commissioner Willis to approve the Water Bills and Payroll. So unanimously voted.

Motion was made by Commissioner Littman, seconded by Commissioner Willis to approve the Sewer Bills and Payroll. So unanimously voted.

TOWN BUSINESS

1) **Executive Session**

a) Real Estate, pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (5)

Motion was made by Councilor Littman, seconded by Councilor Swain to enter into executive session at 8:04 PM pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (5) (real estate). The vote was as follows: Council President Settupane, aye; Councilor Littman, aye; Councilor Long, aye; Councilor Swain, aye; Councilor Willis aye. So unanimously voted.

The Council returned to a regular session of the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners at 8:14 PM. Motion was made by Councilor Swain, seconded by Councilor Littman to seal the minutes of the executive session. The vote was as follows: Council President Settupane, aye; Councilor Littman, aye; Councilor Long, aye; Councilor Swain, aye; Councilor Willis aye. So unanimously voted.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, motion was made by Commissioner Littman, seconded by Commissioner Long to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Denise Jennings
Assistant Finance Director/Water and Sewer Clerk

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