

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

Monday, February 11, 2015

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 4:33 PM by Commission President Kristine S. Trocki.

The following members were present:

Mary E. Meagher, Vice-President
Blake A. Dickinson
Thomas T. Tighe
Michael G. White

Also present were:

Andrew Nota, Town Administrator
Peter D. Ruggiero, Esq., Town Solicitor
Christina D. Collins, Finance Director
Michael Gray PE, Public Works Director
Denise Jennings, Water and Sewer Clerk

AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

(None)

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1) **12/29/14 minutes** (regular meeting)

Motion was made by Commissioner Dickinson, seconded by Commissioner White to accept the 12/29/14 meeting minutes. 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:**

The Public Works Director reported the following:

- JR-1 has been taken out of service for the winter.
- Pumping was down slightly for the month of January, compared to last year.
- Color level/quality is good.
- Transfer pumping was suspended for the winter.
- North Reservoir is @ 45MG, usable storage-60MG.

- South Pond is @ 6MG, usable storage-6MG

2) **Town project reports: (See Project Update Report dated January 2014)**

Treatment Plant:

The Public Works Director reported that staff at the Water Treatment Plant has been working on annual maintenance of the filter membranes. The Public Works Director briefly described the process.

Transfer pumping/Reservoir:

The Public Works Director reported that Arek Galle from Gates & Leighton Landscape Architects and he had met with the Jamestown Tree Preservation Committee to discuss the plan for the replanting at the North Reservoir. The committee will review the drawings and provide their recommendations. The Public Works Director stated that it was his intention to have a smaller scale of plantings and to have the sense of a field, rather than a forest.

The Public Works Director further reported that the condition of white pines on the western side of the reservoir was discussed and it was recommended by the committee that he work with the Tree Warden regarding the removal of the dead trees and the pruning of others.

Distribution system:

The Public Works Director reported that there was one leak in the distribution system on Grinnell Street for the month of January, up till today when a second one popped up on Friendship Street. The Public Works Director stated that this leak would be repaired in the morning.

Wastewater Treatment Facility:

The Public Works Director reported that he has been working on the bid documents for the Sewer Interceptor Rehabilitation project and that he anticipates that the project would be ready to go out for advertising in February.

Following clarification of a few items, it was the consensus of the Commission to accept the report as submitted by the Public Works Director.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 1) Copy of article from TPI (**Treatment Plant Operator publication**)
February 2015 edition

The Public Works Director briefly described the RIDEM training program and the publication.

- 2) Letter dated 01/21/15 from the **Conanicut Island Land Trust** re: Osprey nesting box
Commission President Trocki stated that she had received a call from Quentin Anthony and then asked where this request stood. The Finance Director reported that the request was added to the agenda and scheduled for the 02/02/15 meeting, which was rescheduled after the cancellation of the 01/26/15 meeting. The 02/02/15 meeting was then cancelled due to a second snow storm. Administrator Nota reported that the request was time sensitive due to the filing deadline of a grant for funding. Administrator Nota further reported that the Town was not aware of said deadline, until after the meetings were cancelled. Administrator Nota stated that he was not sure if funding was still viable at this point and that Mr. Anthony is currently away.

Administrator Nota stated that the Town does not object to this application, but would prefer to see applications in advance in the future. Administrator Nota recommended that the Commission support this request.

Commissioner Dickinson suggested that the Town ask the Conanicut Island Land Trust to form a mutual agreement pertaining to the Tick Task Force and hunting on their properties. Brief discussion ensued regarding Commissioner Dickinson's suggestion. The Public Works Director expressed his concerns regarding public

access and viewing at the site and stated that the Town supports the request, but they are not promoting people access to the property.

Motion was made by Commissioner Meagher to accept the request from the Conanicut Island Land Trust. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Dickinson to include a mutual partnership with the Conanicut Island Land Trust. Commissioner Meagher withdrew her motion. Brief discussion ensued regarding the Tick Task Force.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dickinson, seconded by Commissioner Meagher to support the request from the Conanicut Island Land Trust to erect an osprey nesting box on Town owned property (Plat 4, Lot 115-north end of reservoir), pending viable funding for their project. So unanimously voted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(None)

NEW BUSINESS

(None)

TOWN BUSINESS

(None)

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICIALS cont.

3) Review of consumption:

The Finance Director stated that she and the Public Works Director will be reviewing consumption following each fiscal year 2014/15 billings. The Finance Director reported that the October 2014 billing was positive compared to the previous year and that there was a slight decrease in consumption on the January 2015 billing. The Finance Director further reported that if consumption continues with the same amount for the April 2015 and June 2015 billings, it appears as though we would go back to a positive year end and would be compared to fiscal year end 2013.

Brief discussion ensued regarding when the Commission will begin their review for the fiscal year 2015/2016 Water and Sewer budgets. Administrator Nota and the Finance Director stated that they would like to begin discussion process this year around the May/June timeframe.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, motion was made by Commissioner Meagher, seconded by Commissioner White to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 PM. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Denise Jennings
Water and Sewer Clerk

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