

Harwich Water Department

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Meeting on December 9, 2009

Present: Chairman Donald Bates, Vice Chairman George Cavanaugh, Clerk Danette Gonsalves, Superintendent Craig Wiegand, Secretary Alexandra Nidositko.

Chairman Donald Bates called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The minutes for the previous meeting held on November 24, 2009 were approved with a motion by Vice Chair Cavanaugh and seconded by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

The suggestion by Superintendent Wiegand that the Board classify the auxiliary engines in the pump station as surplus property was approved with a motion by Chairman Bates and seconded by Vice Chairman Cavanaugh; 3-0-0.

The Board reviewed the abatement request for water usage charges from Kathy Doyle of 9 Bells Neck Road Unit 3, in regard to a late fee assessed due to a change of mailing address. Upon review and discussion, Vice Chair Cavanaugh moved to deny the abatement request with a second by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0. A letter will be sent to Ms. Doyle addressing the Board's decision.

The Board reviewed the abatement request from the Harwich Water Department, Vice Chair Cavanaugh moved to abate the charges from the account with a second by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

Superintendent Wiegand informed the Board of his intent to purchase three new vehicles this year. Two Ford Rangers at a price of \$28,776, and a Ford F-250 for \$18,540. They will be paid for out of the budget.

Mr. Wiegand also informed the Board that the Capital Outlay Committee has recommended that the structural repairs to the Route 39 Storage Tank be postponed until FY 2012. Upon discussion the Board feels it needs to go forward with this project.

Mr. Wiegand informed the Board that he is currently working on the RFP for the installation of 5,500 feet of 16" Ductile Iron pipe and 2,000 feet of 10" Ductile Iron pipe this fall.

Mr. Wiegand reported that he and Comptroller Sandy Cummings are working on establishing new water rates. This increase will help to cover the costs of the Route 39 Storage Tank and the new Greensand Treatment Plant. He hopes to bring the rate increase to a public hearing in early February 2010, and make it active for the fall.

Mr. Wiegand presented a configuration of the Site 10 Wind Turbines that met all of the criteria set forth by the lead engineers. Mr. Wiegand explained that each turbine must be a minimum of 1,000 feet from a residence and 400 feet from a town boundary. He said that research is still being performed as to potential health risks. Mr. Wiegand said that the Water Commissioners need to approve this new sighting and a piece of property adjacent to the Site 10 place as well. He also said that the Board of Selectman will have to transfer a parcel of property to place a well. He suggested that the BOWC might

want to request that the Town dedicate a small amount of money to maintain roads and access roads to the site.

Mr. Wiegand presented the Board with a Map of Wells in regard to purchasing the Fratus property. It was his understanding that this purchase was to be used for well head protection. Chatham has since stated that they would like to drill some exploratory wells on this property for future potential drinking water wells. As Chatham will be losing Well #7 due to mounding with the Waste Water program, they will be looking to replace it on Harwich property. Mr. Wiegand is opposed to this because it would impact the amount of water that we would be able to draw from Wells, 5, 6 and 7. He stated the possibility of Harwich putting two wells on the Fratus property that would run straight to the treatment facility. He also suggested that if Chatham needed water, we could work something out with them. Mr. Wiegand also said that it was his understanding from the DEP that in order for this deal to take place; there must be agreement from both Towns, a Town vote and it must meet DEP criteria.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m. with a motion by Chairman Bates and seconded by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:52 a.m. with a motion by Vice Chairman Cavanaugh and seconded by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

Selectman McManus arrived to discuss the Fratus property and the impact of Chatham Drinking Water Well(s). He explained that no agreements have been reached as of yet. He said that the Town believes this to be an important piece of property and would like to acquire it, but cannot afford to purchase it alone. They have been looking for partners in order to gather enough financial assistance. He suggested the possibility of a joint well.

The Board will meet again on Tuesday, December 22, 2009, January 5, 2010 and January 19, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m. with a motion by Chairman Bates and seconded by Clerk Gonsalves; 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald T. Bates, Chairman

Craig Wiegand, Superintendent

George Cavanaugh, Vice Chairman

Alexandra Nidositko, Secretary

Danette Gonsalves, Clerk