

DALTON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

October 25, 2016

Present: Chair James Driscoll, Camillus Cachat, Michael Kubicki, Gerry Cahalan, Bob Benlien, Cheryl Cachat.
Public: Michael Cachat, Chad Scovil

James Driscoll called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

General Business:

- Minutes
 - o Motion was made by Jim Driscoll to accept the minutes dated August 30, 2016 and September 27, 2016 as printed and seconded by Cam Cachat, no discussion, unanimous
- Correspondence
 - o An invitation from the Snowseekers' Group for their annual dinner was received if any Commissioner is interested in attending
 - o Notice of Public Hearing
 - Windsor Zoning Board of Appeals on appeal of Timothy & Patricia Crane
 - Petitioner request to revoke building permit, this would result in road closure restricting district access to properties
 - Ed Denham will be attending on behalf of the district
- Ambulance
 - o Chad Scovil spoke on behalf of Dalton Ambulance Association
 - The association is still awaiting a response from Brian Andrews of County Ambulance. He is calculating the cost to the Town of Dalton if County covered all ambulance calls
 - No response to internal & social media request for staffing, will begin public advertisements (newspaper, BerkshireJobs, etc)
 - Cam Cachat requested that the association begin a conversation with the Town regarding providing service to the residents
- Request by Michael Cachat to plan for the future physical structure and location of the fire station
 - o Stated that looking forward over the next 5 years there may be surrounding properties on the market for purchase
 - Would like the district to plan for the future
 - If this is the best location?
 - Current building addition?
 - Or new location with a new building?
 - Jim Driscoll requested an exploratory committee be formed to assess options
 - Cost to purchase land and renovate at current location
 - Would a satellite station be best fit for coverage
 - Upgraded building would accommodate events, kitchen, classroom, parking
 - Committee would plan on visits to other stations
 - Committee would research available grants

Fire Department:

- o Prior to the start of the meeting the Commissioners looked at the new chief vehicle
- o Discussion regarding the new chief vehicle

- Cam Cachat and Mike Kubicki both would like a dual color scheme on the vehicle other than all black
- Cam Cachat checked with 2 vendors on approximate pricing for color change
- All commissioners agreed the emergency lighting on the vehicle at night was adequate
- Jim Driscoll clarified there is no money left in the budget line item
- Cam Cachat & Mike Kubicki agreed it should not be a warrant article next year
- All Commissioners agreed to revisit the topic if surplus budget funds were available at the end of the fiscal year
- Safer Grant Update
 - Extension has been approved and funds received by the district
 - Request to hire for vacant position
 - Read a proposed posting
 - Would like to advertise internal
 - He would vet candidates and propose choice to commissioners
- Motion by Cam Cachat to hire for the vacant position, seconded by Jim Driscoll, unanimous
- 781 calls year to date, 40 below last year at this time

Water Department:

- Printed report from Superintendent attached to official minutes.
- #2 – Discussion regarding the proposed blasting.
 - Blasting complete, levels were below maximum
- #5 – Bob reviewed the water testing for the new tank
- #7 – The district would be responsible for the installation and the meter

Treasurer's Report:

- Printed report from Treasurer attached to official minutes
- Notice was received of the annual Medex increase which will now occur on a midyear fiscal year
 - Discussion of the increase amount being absorbed by the district
- Discussion regarding the property tax for the Hinsdale District property
 - Clerk will file for abatement from Hinsdale
- Jim Driscoll made a motion to appoint Cheryl Cachat to the position of Treasurer for the Dalton Fire District, Mike Kubicki seconded, vote Driscoll and Kubicki approved, Cachat abstained

Jim Driscoll requested that the budget process for FY18 begin with a preliminary schedule of November / December 2016 look at preliminary numbers, January 2017 hard copies and updates, February 2017 finalize amounts.

The next meeting will be November 29, 2016 at 6:30pm in the Dalton Fire Station.

Jim Driscoll made a motion to adjourn at 7:29, Mike Kubicki seconded, passed unanimously

Jim Driscoll made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm, Cam Cachat seconded, unanimous.
The next meeting is November 29, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Cachat

Cheryl Cachat
reasurer/Clerk

Commissioners Meeting, October 25, 2016
Water Department

- 1) Baystate Blasting is done on Pinecrest Dr. We inspected the Water Tank, Building, Vault and surrounding areas. There was no damage done. Gerry has the readings from the seismograph.
- 2) On September 28th while installing the new fence around the Reservoir Rd Water Tank, Berkshire Fence ran their auger through the power line to the Instrumentation Building. We should have marked out the electric lines. John Broadrick repaired the line.
- 3) On September 28th while installing new utility poles Burke Electric ran their auger through the water line for Dalton Medical on North St. There was no Dig safe called in for that area. The Contractor called in Lenox Construction to do the repair.
- 4) There was a leak in the water main that supplies water to 1 Park Ave. There are no Plans or maps that show the valve for that line. We repaired the service.
- 5) The Reservoir Rd Water Tank was filled and the water was tested for "Water Qualities" and "T-Cols". The results showed an elevated Chloroform Level of 100 µg/L. The MCL for Chloroform is 70 µg/L. T&B recommended that we lower the tank to 1/3 of its capacity and then refill. After refilling the water was retested and the results came back as 74 µg/L. T&B recommended that we retest as it has been approximately 2 weeks since the last test and chloroform dissipates with ventilation. We are waiting on the results from that test and anticipate the tank being "Online" by the end of next week.
- 6) Dave Swail replaced the "P.I.V." Valves at the Stationary Mill. The District located, exercised and shut down the water to the mill so these valves could be replaced. We now know that the water main for the mill is connected to the water main on Flansburg Ave.

Commissioners Meeting, October 25, 2016
Water Department

- 7) Steve Sears would like to use one of the 6" Water mains entering the Stationary Mill for potable water. Would the district be responsible for the installation of the water meter?
- 8) Month Meter readings done.
- 9) Henshaw Well Drilling installed a new 2" Galvanized Steel water pipe in the Wahconah Falls well. We ran a bacterial test on the water and it came back "Absent" for Coliform
- 10) The Backflow tests have been started and are about half way done.
- 11) The cost of installing a replacement for the Grinder pump and controls for a new "sump" pump vs. having the pump rebuilt at Elser Pump Station were about the same. We would have been billed about \$500.00 for the service call and repair of the pump and still would have to buy a replacement pump and retro fit a couple of floats, one to operate the pump and one for a high level alarm. The total costs for the repairs on the old pump will be about \$1000.00.
- 12) The District repaired the Curb Stop at 63 Oak St Ext.
- 13) Would the commissioners re-examine the possibility of hiring one more employee for the Water Department.

Report for Water Commissioners Meeting 10/25/2016

1. Classification Hearing

- a. Originally scheduled for November 7, changed to ~~Wednesday~~ ^{THURSDAY} November 17
- b. Will contact Prudential Committee

2. Notice from MIIA Health re: retiree insurance

- a. Rate run a calendar year
- b. Increase on January 1
- c. Chart showing the effects

3. Debit Card for district use are in

4. CUSI billing system

- a. Attending an all day online workshop
- b. Upgrade and incorporate Quickbooks
- c. Increase effectiveness & efficiencies

5. Water

- a. Residential & 6 month meter invoice sent out beginning of month
 - i. \$494,034.25 invoiced
 - ii. Recv'd \$270,558.02- 55%
 - iii. 19 Senior abatement applications recv'd

6. Hinsdale tax update

Rate Change for Medex as of 01/01/2017

07/01/2016-12/31/2016

RETIREE	%	HEALTH	DIST HEALTH	RET HEALTH
RK	90%	\$333.73	\$300.36	\$33.37
HW	85%	\$333.73	\$283.67	\$50.06
DL	85%	\$333.73	\$283.67	\$50.06
			\$867.70	\$133.49

01/01/2017-12/31/2017 (District Absorb)

RETIREE	%	HEALTH	DIST HEALTH	Add Emp	RET HEALTH
RK	90%	\$343.64	\$310.27	0.99	\$33.37
HW	85%	\$343.64	\$293.58	1.49	\$50.06
DL	85%	\$343.64	\$293.58	1.49	\$50.06
			\$897.43	\$3.97	\$133.49

01/01/2017-12/31/2017 (Retiree Absorb)

RETIREE	%	HEALTH	DIST HEALTH	RET HEALTH
RK	90%	\$343.64	\$309.28	\$34.36
HW	85%	\$343.64	\$292.09	\$51.55
DL	85%	\$343.64	\$292.09	\$51.55
			\$893.46	\$137.46

Current Rate	\$10,412.38
w/New Rate Change	\$10,590.79
Add'l thru 06/30/2017	\$178.42
Add'l Per Month	\$29.74

Current Rate	\$10,412.38
w/New Rate Change	\$10,566.97
Add'l thru 06/30/2017	\$154.60
Add'l Per Month	\$25.77