



Town of Berlin – Water Control Commission December 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The Water Control Commission meeting of December 20, 2016 was called to order by Chairman Laroche at 7:00 p.m. in Room 8 of the Berlin Town Hall.

ATTENDANCE:

Chairman Laroche, Commissioners: James Piccoli, Barry Fairwood, Thomas Lasker, Sebastian Senia (Alternate) (Seated), and Liam Mitchell (Alternate). Absent: Alvaro Garcia, Jr..
Staff ó Ray Jarema- Water Control Manager

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Piccoli made a motion to approve the minutes of October 25, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Fairwood. The motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Peter Dizes - Beckley Road property

Mr. Jarema displayed the property map of Mr. Dizes, and briefly described the frontage area that is being assessed. Mr. Dizes distributed some calculations and map that he brought, and explained that there is such a large area of the property that is not usable, he cannot find a buyer willing to pay such a high assessment to connect to public water. The original frontage evaluation was based on a 684' frontage. After a brief discussion, the Commissioners agreed to have Mr. Jarema calculate an assessment based on 120' linear feet for the frontage connection (as this is the average for neighboring properties).

Commissioner Fairwood made a motion to assess the frontage of the property at 120' feet for the water connection, seconded by Commissioner Senia. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Britain Water Department - Mandatory Conservation

Mr. Jarema explained that due to the drought, the New Britain Water Department is enforcing a water conservation mandate (still under effect). Mr. Jarema placed a press release in the Berlin paper asking Berlin residents to comply since we purchase our water from New Britain. He has also looked further at the Regulations and does not find anything about enforcement/penalties when one does not comply. Mr. Jarema requested the Commission's support in finding suitable language for the regulations regarding water restrictions/conservation in times of drought and shortages of water. Mr. Jarema will draft something up to show the Commissioners.

MDC Rowley Street- Sewer Payments

Mr. Jarema has been doing extensive research and has found that the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) owes the Berlin Water Control \$11,000 in reimbursements that are retroactive (2010-2015), and they must contribute to the Deming Road Pumping Station for Rowley Street repairs.

Mr. Jarema has additionally learned that they may also be responsible for their part of any repairs/upgrades that are performed at the Mattabassett District Sewer Treatment Plant.

CT Dept. of Public Health - Fee proposal

Mr. Jarema reported that the Connecticut Department of Health (CDH) is introducing a State-wide Fee Proposal for Water Utilities. DPH is also proposing to change the Towns/Cities individually served by Health Dept./Health Districts be regionalized into 8 county service areas. Things will change dramatically if this proposal goes through.

2017 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Jarema presented the meeting dates for approval.

January 24, 2017
February 28, 2017
March 28, 2017
April 25, 2017
May 23, 2017
June 27, 2017
July 25, 2017
August 22, 2017
September 26, 2017
October 24, 2017
November 28, 2017
December 19, 2017 *Moved up a week because of holiday
January 23, 2018

Commissioner Lasker made a motion to accept the 2017 meeting dates, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Fairwood. The motion was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

David Prickett- Flow Study Status

Mr. Jarema reported that the Flow Study is giving us useful information for comparisons with the MDC, and we have determined that the MDC produces 80% of the flow at the Deming Rd. pump station. We can prove that we have 117 customers being served in the Rowley St. area, and are waiting to see what the MDC tells us they have.

Belcher Brook Inflow and Infiltration Status-

We are awaiting an Army Corps evaluation to see if more analysis needs to be done on four (4) identified vernal pools within the project area. This may set the project back.

Savage Hill - Pump Station- Directional Boring

A project to eliminate the Savage Hill Pump Station is proceeding. The trees that need to be replaced, and/or encroached upon, are being evaluated by a Certified Arborist. The engineering has been completed by MBA Consultants. The Public Works Department continues working on acquiring the necessary easements. We are awaiting easement maps. We will be going to bid to require directional drilling for this project. This may go out to bid early 2017 - with work to be done in the Spring of 2017.

Water Utility Control Committee (WUCC) Meetings

Mr. Jarema and Mr. Healy continue to attend WUCC meetings to ascertain that the Town of Berlin gets to keep the option to service the area out by the Chamberlain Highway. There was little opposition to the idea at the last meeting, so we are hopeful that the area will remain with the Berlin Water Control.

Well 1B status

Mr. Jarema reported that the Department of Public Health has approved the use of Well 1B and S.B. Church is working to move the project forward.

Safety Valve Update

Mr. Jarema summarized the report from Safety Valve:

Total Since Inception (2/1/15 to 10/31/16):

Water: \$1,643.52

Sewer: \$2,563.05

Total: \$4,206.57

Customers active Safety Valve Customers thru 11/30/16:

Water: 210

Sewer: 191

Total of all customers: 401 or 16.4% of eligible customer base.

Repairs:

Three (3) Water repairs to date for a total repair cost of \$8,960.00

Seven (7) sewer repairs to date for total repair cost of \$7,593.07

Commissioner Piccoli made a motion to add an item to the agenda regarding the Rowley St. Pumping Station, seconded by Commissioner Fairwood. The motion was unanimously approved.

Rowley St. Pumping Station- Status

Mr. Jarema reported that they are looking to install a booster pump in the area of the Taco Bell parking lot and it could be a little problematic with equipment mobilization etc., but it will tremendously increase the capacity, and will help with the safety of our men. Our existing pump station conditions risk our men getting electrocuted.

Good of the Order:

Mr. Jarema reported that Well 1A has shown a depleted pumping rate from 350 gallons per minute (gpm) to less than 200 gpm. S.B. Church has indicated that we are not getting the most efficient operation of Well 2A and recommends resurging to increase its yield (it has been 12 years since the last procedure). Additionally, the existing pump needs to be replaced. Mr. Healy is presenting a Council Item tonight for S.B. Church to perform the work.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Piccoli made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Senia. The motion was unanimously approved.

Lecia J. Paonessa
Recording Secretary

UNAPPROVED