



DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.
Dorset Water Co.

Mailing: PO Box 341 Dorset, VT 05251
Fire Station: 2877 Route 30 Dorset, VT 05251
Town Office: 112 Mad Tom Rd E. Dorset, VT 05253
Phone: 802-362-4571 x 4
Email: dorsetfire341@gmail.com

DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1 **January 13, 2020**

Present: Ben Weiss, Chairman, Milt McWayne, Roger Squire, Abbott de Rham, Lee Fox, Shawn Hazelton (Fire Chief), Rob Gaiotti (Town Manager)

Absent:

Others Present: Joe Clark (1st Assistant Chief), Greg Kepler, Robert M. Clark (Otter Creek Engineering), Ginny Longacre, Nancy Faesy, Bob Faesy

Ben Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Approval of December Meeting Minutes

L. Fox moved and A. de Rham seconded to approve the December 9, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0 (M. McWayne & R. Squire abstained)

Engineer's Report (Kepler) & Preliminary Engineering Report for Well #2 Treatment System

G. Kepler introduced Robert Clark of Otter Creek Engineering who will review the preliminary engineering report for well #2.

G. Kepler discussed his January 13th engineer's report noting the key points:

- 17 GPM,
- no interference with neighboring wells,
- water quality in compliance with exception of turbidity,
- color, manganese & iron concentrations do not exceed health advisory limits
- VHB determined that wastewater from leach fields does not affect the well

Discussion ensued regarding the Otter Creek Engineering (OCE) Preliminary Report (PER) with OCE noting that due to the water quality, permitting for the well should be as an emergency source and treatment plans put in place to retain investments in the system. B. Weiss stated that he was never aware of the restriction of emergency use only for this well. R. Clark commented that it's the State perspective that it has to be treated for turbidity and it is not recommended to put money into the well except as an emergency source. Four alternatives were evaluated ~ three as emergency source (Alt 1A, 1B & 1C) and one as a supplemental source (Alt 2); each with increasing monetary investment from \$321,000 to \$1,115,000. Options A, B and C filtration with cartridges would be dependent upon the level of service to water users filtering out turbidity to meet primary drinking standards to use whenever needed. B. Weiss reiterated that he felt the Board was unaware of the issues and it was a lot of money to drill well #3 hoping to avoid more issues.

Discussion covered:

- emergency water conditions 24/7 for two months precluding Alternatives A1 to A3;
- eliminating water loss on the system to ease State requirements; State will place conditions as they see fit with regard to supplemental or emergency sources;
- drilling another well & meeting distance parameter;
- investing more money in wells or following another avenue of resolution.

B. Weiss asked what can be done with the current wells and R. Clark responded that the State will look at water quality and yield, but will work with the Board for a reasonable solution. B. Weiss expressed that it was a lot of money to spend for an emergency source yielding 17.5 GPM. R. Gaiotti suggested that the Board focus on leak and system-wide repairs which led to talking about available State subsidies for water systems. R. Clark cautioned that the State may still require an alternate water source as they do not support using springs and even if leaks are fixed. G. Kepler noted that the Board may need to cover easement issues if fixing the system by means of an ordinance. R. Clark commented that identifying leaks, valve replacement, meters, capital improvement planning, having a comprehensive PER for State use and looking at all options should be evaluated by the Board. L. Fox asked if they could take advantage of the State paving project for Route 30 and R. Clark said that it would probably not work right now.

L. Fox questioned what the PER covered such as leaks, goosenecks, meters, etc. and asked for a list in priority order. R. Clark responded yes and a regular improvement program should be instituted with the last piece being fire protection hydrology. Discussion moved back to drought conditions and solutions with G. Kepler voicing that between 65-80 GPM come from the springs when used and demand was higher. The GPM are going down so the water system is not in a bad position, but focusing on the leak equation, prioritizing and optimizing funding would be important. Meters, meter location and type of meters were talked about along with two water sources with cost

prohibitive treatment options. R. Clark noted working on leaks, talking to homeowners, and drilling a private well for testing are possibilities. B. Weiss stated that they would not currently pursue Alternative 2 (full treatment), but move ahead with the system-wide PER ~ the big question is water source. G. Kepler said that the Board is in a holding pattern until the State returns their position. R. Clark added that if the State says supplemental water is needed, the discussion can be opened again. B. Weiss outlined the next steps as proceeding with the second system-wide PER which may include how to get an alternate source.

A. deRham moved and M. McWayne seconded to accept the Engineer's Report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Fire Chief's Report:

S. Hazelton gave the monthly report for the Fire Department listing the calls and locations for the month. The 2019 participation figures for the annual payment to the fire department members was presented to the Board to consider in Executive Session. It was the consensus of the Board members to allow the third tablet to be placed on the AT&T account for a total of three tablets at \$25 each (\$75 per month). M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to accept the Fire Chief's report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Water Manager's and Water Operator's Report (Gaiotti)

R. Gaiotti reported:

- Water Operator has been traveling house to house listening to pipes for leaks.
- Matchpoint will be returning to conduct another five-day leak survey along Route 30. B. Weiss asked if Matchpoint will survey Route 30 North and R Gaiotti responded that they will be looking at that.
- Source Protection Plan and lead & copper plan have been approved by the State.
- Conversation with homeowner regarding tank/well infrastructure on their property took place ~ A. de Rham suggested getting a letter of intent.

L. Fox moved and R. Squire seconded to accept the Water Manager's report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Proposed Water Ordinances

B. Weiss stated that J. Barlow (Attorney) was on vacation and the suggested changes were not sent to him. G. Kepler is to research and consult with R. Clark to get the correct language to be used in the ordinance for property easements to be able to accomplish work on all the water system lines. A. de Rham noted that the ordinance needs to be adaptable to include the changing of easements such as re-routing a service line or expanding a house.

2020-2021 Fire Budget

R. Squire recommended raising the reserve fire truck fund to \$40,000 since it was significantly reduced for the new fire truck purchase.

A. De Rham moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the preliminary budget number of \$183,700 for use in the Dorset Town Report. Motion carried 5-0.

Fire & Water Company Financials (Gaiotti)

R. Gaiotti reported on the account balances and delinquent accounts for the water and fire departments. L. Fox moved and R. Squire seconded to accept the Fire & Water Company financials as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

B. Weiss explained that he had received a call from B. Herrmann regarding the Quigley property on Barrows Heights asking for approval of their project. G. Kepler had pulled the old Quigley file prepared by Frank Parente to show the Board. The Board discussed the pro's and con's of the project and they noted that a new drawing has not been submitted. A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to agree in concept with the extended relocation option as depicted in general on the Kepler sketch, but require B. Herrmann to submit an official plan prior to any construction; to seek a State permit if necessary; and submit any necessary legal document such as easement paperwork. Motion carried 5-0.

New Business

- M. McWayne reported that there are two new Fire Department members.
- Discussion resumed concerning well #2; treatment options; continuation of involvement of VHB, use of Otter Creek Engineering and the Route 30 North main pipe connection.

A. de Rham moved and M. McWayne seconded to move to Executive Session at 10:01 p.m. Motion carried 5-0. Executive Session ended at 10:10 p.m. with a motion by M. McWayne and a second by L. Fox. Motion carried 5-0.

M. McWayne moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the recommended Firefighter bonus amounts as submitted by S. Hazelton, Fire Chief. Motion carried 5-0.

L. Fox moved and R. Squire seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Aversano

Town of Dorset ~ Dorset Fire District #1

Date 1/13/20

Regular Meeting X

Special Meeting

(Please Print)

Name	Mailing Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes/No)
JOE CLARK	PO 121 Pawlet, VT	1st ASST CHIEF DFD	NO
Shawn Hazelton	433 Pauls Way Dorset	Chief DFD	Yes
GREG KEPLER		DFD	Yes
Robert M. Clark		Otter Creek E3/DFD	Yes
Ginny Longacre	2533 Route 30	self	no
Nancy Friesy	PO Box 17-2354 Rte 30	self	NO
Bob Fawcett	"	"	No.