

## **Dorset Fire District No. 1 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Present: Ben Weiss, Roger Squire, Abbott de Rham, Milton McWayne, Lee Fox, Greg Kepler, Robert Clark, Rob Gaiotti, Shawn Hazleton, Ginny & Andy Longacre

Ben Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

### **June 8th Minutes:**

Roger Squire moved and Lee Fox seconded to approve the minutes of June 8, 2020, motion approved 5-0.

### **Engineer's Report:**

Greg Kepler reviewed the monthly Engineer's report. Items included: PER 60% meeting, gravel well source permit, discussion about subsidy funding from the State Drinking Water Revolving Fund. It was noted that the \$750,000 of the first \$1million of certain projects were possibly eligible for subsidy. Next steps would include: project choice, permit to construct filed by Jan 31st, bond vote April 2021 and Loan set up by June. Discussion ensued about possible projects. Projects include: updating failing shared service lines, creating a fund whereby users could apply for the District to cover 75% of the costs of replacing a service line etc. Further discussion ensued about the State revolving fund process, possible drawbacks, costs, etc. The District discussed the possibility of incentivizing projects.

Lee Fox moved to have Engineer's outline all the options possible for projects and the State Revolving fund and its benefits to the Fire District. Discussion ensued about the PER and outlining options for projects. Additional discussion ensued about other approaches that might possibly cost the Fire District less overall. The readiness to proceed process was outlined in detail by Greg Kepler and Robert Clark. Lee Fox rescinded the motion as the PER review and next steps will help give this information. The goal is to have the PER with options and information in advance of the August 10th Annual Meeting.

Abbott moved and Lee Fox seconded to approve the Engineer's Report, motion passed 5-0.

### **Water Manager's Report & Financials:**

Rob Gaiotti presented the monthly water operations report. It was noted that 3286 has a disconnected second service line that is leaking from a curb valve. Discussion ensued about the drop in wasted/leaking water over the past 2 years. The excess water has gone from 90 gallons per minute down to 40 gallons per minute.

Milton McWayne moved and Lee Fox seconded to approve the Water Manager's Report, motion passed 5-0.

**Fire Chief's Report:**

Chief Hazelton went through the Fire Chief's monthly report for June and July to date. Ben Weiss asked about the issuance of burn permits. Chief Hazelton responded that burn permits are possible but the Fire Department wants to inspect the burn pile. Milton McWayne noted that member Colin Stabile had resigned his post in the Dorset Fire Department.

Abbott de Rham and Lee Fox seconded to approve the Fire Chief's report, motion passed 5-0.

**Fire District Financials:**

Rob Gaiotti presented the monthly financials for June-July 2020. Items included monthly expense

**Fire Protection Agreement: DFD No. 1 - Town of Dorset - East Dorset Fire District No. 1**

Abbott de Rham moved and Lee Fox seconded to approve the Fire Protection agreement as written and forward it to the Dorset Selectboard and East Dorset Fire District No. 1, motion passed 5-0.

**Commercial Meters:**

Ben Weiss asked when Commercial meters could be addressed as projects. R. Gaiotti noted that the FY20 water budget was basically fully expended. In FY21 the Water Division has the option to use the contingency funding and possibly the debt service funding to accomplish shorter term projects, like was done spring/summer 2020.

**Annual Meeting Preparation:**

Discussion ensued about the upcoming Annual meeting, how it will be held to account for COVID measures and the annual report. It was the consensus of the Board to use the back of the building and attempt to have seating outside while the Board would sit at the table inside the garage bay. Roger Squire inquired about portions of the water budget and Ben Weiss suggested that the finance subcommittee should get together prior to the annual meeting and the next regular meeting on August 3rd. Further discussion ensued about other items for review at the annual meeting, who would present information etc.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting stood adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Rob Gaiotti  
Town Manager