



DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.
Dorset Water Co.

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DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1

June 8, 2020

(Via Zoom Call)

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

Absent:

Others Present: Justine Cook, Greg Kepler, Ginny Longacre

Ben Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Approval of May Minutes

Lee Fox moved and Roger Squire seconded to approve the minutes as presented, motion passed 4-0.

Operator's Update:

Ben Weiss noted that he asked Water Operator Chris Hayes to attend the meeting for discussion on a couple items. An update was given on the status of leak repair work, work still pending, and the potential of bringing back Matchpoint to continue the leak repair location process. Discussion ensued about having operations staff repeat the night time flow isolation work to determine the leak rates in the 8 zones previously recorded. After that Matchpoint could spend time searching for leaks in the most urgent areas. It was noted that background flow has gone from 85-90 gpm to 40 gpm under these efforts. Lee Fox noted that the target should be 15-20 gpm, as this would get DFD to around 50,000 gallons of use per day and bring operations into conformance with the permit. Discussion ensued about pressure testing the 8" line from the reservoir to determine if leaks are present based upon the different measurements of the upper and lower meters. It was noted that this review could be done at the same time of the repair work at 330 Church Street.

The Discussion topic then shifted to system metering starting with commercial meters. Ben Weiss noted that the District was hoping to use any left over project funds from repairs to add meters to the largest commercial customers first. Chris Hayes gave an overview of meters, platforms, data collection technology and rough costs for commercial & residential meters. It was the consensus of the Board to ask Chris to get pricing on meters to get an idea of costs. Further discussion ensued with Justine Cook about meters, leak repair projects and general direction of the water system work.

Engineer's Report:

Greg Kepler reviewed the June Engineer's report. Noting the DFD had the 60% PER meeting with the State and the 90% meeting would be scheduled soon. Discussion ensued about future projects, service line replacement etc. Roger Squire moved and Lee Fox seconded to approve the Engineer's report, motion passed 4-0

Water Operations/ Manger's Report (Gaiotti)

R. Gaiotti gave a brief update about water operations for the previous month. Items included: repairs done, metering data, planning loan funding reimbursement sought etc. Gaiotti also gave a brief update about financials for the Water Division. Lee Fox moved and Roger Squire seconded to approve the Water Manger's Report, motion passed 4-0.

Shared Service Line Agreement Letter:

Roger Squire presented the payment agreement letter for shared services line that were recently upgraded. Discussion ensued about the handful of customers impacted. The letter allows for repayment of the costs over 5 years at 0% interest. The Fire District will takeover ownership of the shared lines as laid out in a different document. Lee Fox moved and Abbott de Rham seconded to approve the letter as presented. Motion passed 4-0.

Water Ordinance:

Ben Weiss noted that the latest version of the Water Ordinance was on the agenda and he thought DFD was prepared to pass it. Discussion ensued on a few small points and types of language included. R. Gaiotti noted that the ordinance goes into effect after a 60 day appeal period. Lee Fox moved and Abbott de Rham seconded to approve the Water Ordinance, motion passed 4-0.

Annual Meeting:

Roger Squire inquired about setting the date for the annual meeting. Discussion ensued about COVID restrictions, location of the meeting and format. Further discussion ensued about the District's presentation at the meeting of the general

direction of efforts related to the Water System. It was noted that a bond vote did not make sense at this time as the District would not be able to access State Lead subsidy funding for potentially 1-2 funding cycles. Discussion ensued about short and long term projects that would benefit the District the most. Lee Fox noted that the DFD message should: focus on leak repairs and dropping the use/ leak volumes to get out of moratorium and in compliance with the permit is the number one goal. Once that is complete the District will move on to larger capital projects as outlined in the PER. Roger Squire moved and Lee Fox seconded to set August 10, 2020 as the date for the Annual meeting, motion passed 4-0.

Old Firehouse Purchase Offer:

Ben Weiss noted that Jon Ams had recently made an offer of \$10,000 for purchase of the Old Firehouse property next to the post office. It was noted that under the recent appraisal the value of the property was listed: without water/wastewater value: \$8,000 - \$12,000; with water/wastewater infrastructure: \$95,000. There is currently no water/wastewater infrastructure. Abott de Rham stated that given the difficulty of the installing the infrastructure and the very small size of the lot it seemed like selling the asset for \$10,000 was reasonable. Ben Weiss noted that Attorney Barlow suggested to include the sale of the property on the annual meeting warning and have the voters approve the sale. Abbott de Rham moved and Lee Fox seconded to approve including the sale the Old Firehose property as an article at the annual meeting, motion passed 4-0.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 9:18pm

Respectfully Submitted, Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager