



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

August 3, 2020

(Via Zoom Call)

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

Absent:

Others Present: Greg Kepler, Ginny Longacre

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

Approval of July Minutes

Lee Fox noted that the deadline in the minutes for the Permit to Construct is 12/1/20; Roger Squire added that the full address of 3286 Route 30 should be listed under the Water Manager's Report. L. Fox moved and R. Squire seconded to approve the July minutes as amended, motion passed 4-0.

Engineer's Report:

Greg Kepler presented the monthly Engineer's report related to the water system. He outlined the work done toward the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for system wide improvements. The PER is at the 90% stage and there was a meeting with State Drinking Water Operations and Finance Division officials to solicit additional feedback and get approval of where DFD is in the process. He noted that one issue that came up was the Willie Nickerson mentioned that a safe yield estimate would be needed for the springs, before the moratorium on new allocations or hookups would be lifted. Kepler explained the options for spring yield testing, there are two options: one less formal that could be done by operations, and one more formal that involves hydrogeologists etc. He noted that the more formal option often ends up with a higher figure. Discussion ensued

with regard to the current spring yield estimate of 68 gallons per minute, where it came from etc. Greg Kepler also noted that the State Water Funding programs have new opportunities under the Intended Use Plan that he has seen the likes of since the 2008 era. Discussion ensued about they types of funding and possible subsidy that might be available for a system wide service line replacement project. Board members had further discussion about the pros and cons of going through the State funding and how much of the work scope in the PER could be pursued and how much DFD could afford. It was the consensus of the Board to prioritize and scope an effort that would maximize any State subsidy available. Further discussion was had about end user's and their share of service line work. It was the consensus of the Board to present an option for users to get 70% of their service line replacement costs as part of the State funded project picked by DFD.

Additional discussion ensued about the total estimated project costs for parts A, B, and C of Phase 1 in the PER. Part A includes replacing all service lines, Part B includes adding meters, and Part C includes replacing shared service/mains. Total estimated cost are around \$3.2 million and a possible bond vote at the \$3 million level would make sense. Ben Weiss noted that he wanted to give a direction to the users at the Annual Meeting on August 10th and all these items were vital to discuss with users. G. Kepler noted that steps in the "readiness" criteria that need to be hit to stay on track for a State Loan and possible subsidy. Discussion ensued about a project in the \$1million area as it would maximize subsidy dollars and DFD might be able to continue work with funds that would come back in (30%) from users over time. It was the consensus of the Board to outline this information and present this option at the Annual Meeting.

Water Operations/ Manger's Report (Gaiotti)

R. Gaiotti gave a brief update about water operations for the previous month. Items included: repairs done at 3286 Route 30, metering data, and additional leaks at 40 Cheney and 63 Playhouse that still need to be repaired. Lee Fox moved and Abbott de Rham seconded to approve the Water Manger's Report, motion passed 4-0.

Fire Chief's Report

Chief Hazleton gave the monthly report for the Fire Department activities. He noted the calls for the month and the work done by the members. It was noted that both Colin and Truman Stabile were no longer members. Discussion ensued about recruitment. Chief Hazelton asked R. Gaiotti for gravel to be added to the back of the parking lot behind the Firehouse.

Water/ Fire Financials:

R. Gaiotti presented the monthly financial information for Water & Fire Divisions. Fire continues to be in a strong position, and Water has good cash flow as well.

He noted that the FY20 audit draft was almost complete and that he expected a small surplus for both the Water & Fire Division accounts. Lee Fox moved and Roger Squire seconded to approve the monthly financials, motion passed 4-0.

Annual Meeting:

The Board reviewed the process for logistics at the annual meeting next week. Chief Hazelton will get the Firehouse set up and a projector screen set up as well. R. Gaiotti will bring copies, masks, sanitizer, and will coordinate the Zoom portion of the meeting. B. Weiss will reach out the Kevin O'Toole to moderate.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm

Respectfully Submitted, Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager