



# DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.  
Dorset Water Co.

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## DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1

**September 14, 2020**

**(Via Zoom Call)**

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

**Absent:**

**Others Present:** Greg Kepler, Robert Clark,

Ben Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

### **Approval of August Minutes**

Lee Fox noted that the August minutes needed to have “Phase 1C” removed from the description of the Engineering Report, as only phases 1A & 1B were discussed. Lee Fox moved and Milton McWayne seconded to approve the minutes as amended, motion passed 4-0.

### **Otter Creek Engineering Scope of Service Proposal:**

Robert Clark of Otter Creek Engineering was present to give information and answer questions on Otter Creek’s proposal for design services related to the system wide service line replacement. He noted that the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) had been submitted and approved by the State and the OCE proposal includes Parts A & B of the improvements outlined in the PER, part A is service line replacements and part B is metering. R. Clark noted that over the next 2 months OCE will work to accrue the information needed to submit a permit to construct application by December 1<sup>st</sup> as required. He noted that OCE will do a lot of on the ground work and will also be sending surveys to users via mail to gather as much information as possible so the design documents and ultimately the bidding documents are clear for contractors. Discussion ensued about certain locations within the system and possible improvements. R. Gaiotti

noted that the Peace Street area would need some review by OCE and DFD to determine the best approach. B. Weiss asked if OCE was prepared to meet December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline and R. Clark responded that they were comfortable with having the permit to construct application submitted by the deadline. He noted that OCE hoped to have most of the work for the plans done by mid October and that he hopes to include the State in the ongoing conversation so they know where DFD is in the process. R. Clark noted that there are some other items like the Bond Vote that DFD would have to line up to coincide with the timeline. B. Weiss asked about including a contingency in the contract for failing to meet the December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. He noted that he thought DFD needed some contingency and ability to claw funds back if the timeline is not met. R. Clark noted that they were comfortable with the timeline and that OCE would entertain the idea of the contingency in the contract, but he would need to review it with OCE business partners prior to finalizing it. Discussion ensued about the process and the timing and OCE working alongside Water Operations staff to speed up the process where feasible.

L. Fox moved to approve the Otter Creek Engineering Services proposal with the option to hold field work invoices until 10/12 and including a contingency for failure to perform, M. McWayne seconded, motion passed 4-0.

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

Greg Kepler presented the monthly engineer's report. Notable items included getting information from airlift well drilling companies with regard to the bedrock well, the permitted gravel well, and the yields of the springs. Discussion ensued about the process for determine the safe yield of the springs. G. Kepler noted that there are two options, the simple option of having staff measure the production periodically and report the information over the course of a year. This estimate was then divided by four and that was the figure the State accepted. G. Kepler noted that this option often ends up with a lower yield than is actually present. The other method is a more technical hydrogeological review of the springs that gave a more realistic number, but the process takes some time and could cost up to \$25,000. G. Kepler further noted that the State is expecting DFD to move forward with an estimate on the safe yield at some point fairly soon.

### **Water Manger's Report:**

- R. Gaiotti gave the monthly operations report as noted:
- Leak on Playhouse Lane repaired
- Service calls from a few customers
- Springs continue to produce and the reservoir is full
- Quigley proposal to move main etc.

Discussion ensued with regard to the Quigley request. R. Gaiotti met with Chris Hayes to layout a reasonable proposal to down size the 4" pipe to 2" and run it in the road 400' and then reconnect it to the 4" pipe. At current the main is less

than 12” from the corner of the Quigley foundation, and also runs near the septic system. This would get a section of main out into the road, away from the septic and house, allowing DFD to simply run 240’ of 2” pipe from the main on Dorset Hollow to get the main under the road and out from under the Yandow garage. It would also allow Quigley to move forward with his plans to add onto the house. When the work takes place, DFD will use the same vendor to replace a valve on Dorset Hollow, which allow the Barrows Heights users to be isolated. Quigley is willing to cover the costs of moving the main as described.

L. Fox moved and Roger Squire seconded to approve to proposal with DFD covering the cost of the valve replacement and Quigley covering the full cost of moving the main, 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. He noted that a few new members were going to be joining the ranks soon and that attendance at drills and calls is good.

### **Water/ Fire Financials:**

R. Gaiotti presented the monthly financial information for Water & Fire Divisions. Fire continues to be in a strong position, and Water will need to look at cash flow moving forward to fund the design work being done by Otter Creek. He also noted that a few delinquent water accounts have paid too.

Lee Fox moved and Roger Squire seconded to approve the monthly financials, motion passed 4-0.

### **Old Business:**

B. Weiss noted that the air lift of the bedrock well was noted at the annual meeting and that is why DFD looked into it. Discussion ensued about timing and the merits of further efforts to work on the well. B. Weiss also noted that DFD had not heard from the attorney for the buyers of the old firehouse property on Route 30. The DFD attorney suggested having the buyer’s attorney put together the sales agreement. It was noted that attorneys are busy with real estate closings and it may take a while to address this issue.

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

Respectfully Submitted, Rob Gaiotti, Town Manager