

Draft

North Hero Water Board Meeting
Monday, July 27 2009 6:30 P.M.
Board Meeting Room/ Town Office

In Attendance: Water Board = Larry Dupont, Robert Rousseau, Jay O'Boyle
Rob Cunningham and Terry Schaefer

Board Clerk = Jo-Ann Tier
Assistant Water Operator = Douglas Ward
Town Clerk = Pete Johnson
Guest = Joe Duncan (Forcier Aldrich & Associates, Inc.)
Note: Jeff Gratton did not attend this meeting due to illness

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair at 6:35 P.M.

ADJUSTMENT OF AGENDA

Under Board Discussion/Action

- Zebra Mussels... Larry Dupont

APPROVAL OF MINUTES... June 22, 2009

Rob Cunningham made a motion to accept the minutes of June 22, 2009 as read. This motion was seconded by Robert Rousseau.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT

The warrant in the amount of \$2,677.42 was signed by all Water Board Commissioners.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Duncan (Forcier Aldrich & Associates, Inc.)

The following material was distributed to the Board and discussed:

- Aquastore Potable Water Ground Storage Tank
- Aquastore Composite Elevated Water Storage Tank
- Proposed Site Plan

Following the discussion – the Board was in agreement that Jay O'Boyle proceed forward with his continuation of discussion with the State for

an obtainment for easement papers for the proposed site.

It was noted that it may be necessary for the Board to have said property surveyed at the Water Board expense.

The Board also agreed not to participate in the DRB Meeting scheduled for August 13th, until the Board has more information on the easement, etc. and that the Water Board would like to be on the September agenda.

Note: Jay will move forward with contacts

Pete Johnson was inform DRB that the Water Board is requesting to be on the agenda for the September Meeting.

REPORTS

Water Operator

Report from Jeff Gratton was distributed and the following was referenced:

- Water production ...so far in July – 3,018,296 gallons - for an average of 116,088 gallons per day.
- Check valve for the Fire Department was installed by Jeff.
- Looked in to sending prints to Repo Graphics.. it was suggested that Jeff get prices from BluePrints... Future Agenda Item
- Greenblott property.. tap cannot take place until a full set of plans are submitted.
- Downloading data from Flexum flow meter was a problem. Douglas Ward did work on it.
Note: Douglas Ward explained the process to the Board.
- Filter Number 4 – not performing as well as 1,2 and 3.
Discussion...

Note: Douglas Ward was asked to have Jeff get a price from BluePrints

Town Clerk/Treasurer

Estimated figures were given for delinquent water payments.

i.e. (approximate)\$2,800.00 delinquent and an approximate \$2,500.00 should be received when properties are sold.

ERU monies going into the ERU Account –

Audit recommendations.. Board needs to establish how much of the fee is for operating and how much is for capital... the creating of an operating deficit was referenced.

It was noted by the Board that a change in policy as to what the new hook-on person pays no longer reflects a deficit in operating expense for hook-ons.

BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTON

Water Tower – Site Plan/DRB results

Discussed earlier in the meeting

New Service Agreement

Review took place - pages 1 through 6

It was noted that page 5 of 6 should reflect the following changes:

Number 3 to read:

The undersigned also agrees to pay a water fee:

_____ Eru for year round use

_____ ERU for seasonal rate

Number 4 remove:

(Effective July 1, 2009; reviewed annually)

Larry Dupont made a motion to accept the New Service Agreement with the noted changes... this motion was seconded by Rob Cunningham.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

Increase for water users.. Rob Cunningham

Budget paperwork prepared by Rob Cunningham was distributed to the Board.. a view took place... discussion.

Hook-on fees ... Discussion

The Board agreed that it is time to raise the fee for hook-on from \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00.

Larry Dupont made a motion that the hook-on fees, effective December 01, 2009 go up to \$3,000.00 per ERU with the installation continue being at the expense of the owner. This motion was seconded by Jay O'Boyle.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

Note: Board agreed that the upcoming increase in cost be posted for public information

Change in water rates.. Discussion

Larry Dupont made a motion that the water rates for both year round and seasonal be increased by 5% in the fiscal year 2010-2011 starting July 01, 2010. This motion was seconded by Rob Cunningham.. hearing no further discussion this motion was carried 5-0.

Note: Rob Cunningham was asked when he is preparing budget for 2010-2011 that this action be reflected in the figures being “plugged in” for budget discussion.

It was also noted that the Select Board should be informed of these decisions.

Monies from “Homeland Securities” was discussed.. could we apply? Would we qualify?

Note: Terry will discuss with Joe Duncan and ask him to investigate.

Probationary period review for Douglas Ward.. Larry Dupont
Larry will get on this immediately... he was uninformed of this assignment....

Stewart Property

Water not used last year... request has been made to apply to this year’s payment.

Pete Johnson was asked to check into last year’s payment... and report said info to Terry.

Board gave Terry permission to act on the findings as a “one time exception” pending information he received from Pete Johnson.

Note: see page 6 for action taken by Terry Schaefer.

Pelots Point Extension

Janet Curtis (07-01-79 07-01-81) Robert Horton (07-01-83) have expressed an interest for water.

A lengthy discussion took place for possible water connections in that area.

Following this discussion the following action was taken:

Larry Dupont made a motion seconded by Jay O’Boyle that the North Hero Water Board approve the \$3,500.00 expense for piping and valves on Pelots Point Road for approximately 430 feet which will extend the current Town waterline.

And, that the cost for digging, blasting and piping to the property owners home/cottages is at the owners expense.

The North Hero Water Board will bill for seasonal water in April of 2010 with that final quarter for payment being pro-rated.. and, in June of 2010 they (Janet Curtis and Robert Horton) will receive an invoice for water for the next seasonal year.

Hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

Note: Letter to Horton and Curtis mailed out July 29, 2009.

Zebra Mussels

Discussed... hiring someone to dive with a camera..., etc.

Robert Rousseau made a motion that Eugene Burnelle (diver) from Milton, Vermont be hired .. this motion was seconded by Rob Cunningham.. hearing no further discussion – this motion was carried 5-0.

CORRESPONDENCE AND SHARING

Letter from Richard and Eileen Mitchell

Letter of “thanks” received by Richard and Eileen Mitchell was read by Chair.

Northern Lake Champlain Advisory Committee Public Meeting

Larry extended an invitation for the Board to attend this public meeting on August 08, 2009 at Shore Acres.

Shore Acres 07.03.82

Question was raised if Shore Acres was getting a 10% discount. Discussion.

It was agreed this status would be checked out and reported back to the Board.

Note: Answer on page 6

Chase Property

Terry reported that the water has been turned on for both \ Properties. 11.09.112 11.09.111 for year round use early June 2009 was turned on....

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OLD BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed this evening

AGENDA BUILDING

August 24, 2009..... BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION

Update on zebra mussels..... Terry Schaefer

Probationary period review for Douglas Ward – Larry Dupont

Update.. Pelots Point Extension.. Terry Schaefer

_ Homeland Security Monies... Terry Schaefer

Water Operator

Findings of cost for CD of record drawings

November 23, 2009 - Budget.. Equipment .. lawn mower

ADJOURNMENT

Robert Rousseau made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 8:40 P.M. This motion was seconded by Larry Dupont.. hearing no further discussion.. this motion was carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo-Ann Tier

C: Board: Jay/Robert/Rob/Terry/Larry
Town Clerk
Web Page
File

Note: Shore Acres.. letter dated March 25, 2008 references... “with an additional 1500 gallons of water per day at full time use for an additional two ERU’s.. the Board will remove the 10% discount”.

Stewart Property

E.mail from Town Clerk

- Per vote of the WB (July 27, 2009) and verbal approval by Terry Schaefer on July 31, 2009 the 09-10 water fees for 1091 US Route # 2 (Anne Stewart property) are adjusted. This decision was based on full payment of 08-09 water fees even though the water was shut-off for the entire year due to the construction. Normal billing will resume on 10-11.