

NORTH BENNINGTON WATER BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
20 December 2022

PRESENT: David Shaughnessy, Arla Sampsell, Jerry Elwell, Steve Goodrich, Joe Herrmann, Ted Fela, Mary Rogers and April Paulin

David called the budget meeting to order at 5:51 pm.

The Board discussed the numbers and plans for the 2023 budget. There are still some numbers that need to be finalized such as company paid pension and health insurance. The Board approved a 4% pay increase for all employees excluding the Board. Mary brought up that, according to the Village Charter, the Board of Trustees should be setting the Water Board's compensation so that still needs to be finalized as well. The numbers will be finalized and totaled for the next meeting where it will be voted on and approved.

Steve moved to adjourn the budget meeting at 7 pm. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

David called the December monthly meeting to order at 7 pm.

MINUTES

Steve moved to approve the minutes of 15 November 2022, as presented. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

WARRANTS

Steve moved to approve the payroll warrant for 2 - 31 December for \$9,149.42, check #'s 10207-10218. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Steve moved to approve the monthly warrant for \$15,944.85, check #'s 10221-10241 as well as one debit payment. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ted has received a check from the Town of Shaftsbury for their back payment. The latest bill was mailed 1 December and Ted expects payment from them by the end of the month.

The Board had held off on the approval of HRH Management's allocation request because they had not replaced the backflow as is required. They have now had that backflow preventer replaced and Ted has received confirmation via email by the plumber who installed it.

Steve moved to approve HRH Management's allocation request for an additional 14,188 ½ gpd bringing their allocation to 37,710 gpd. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The Village is planning on paving Pleasant, Prospect and Hall Streets and there are a total of 9 galvanized lines that need to be replaced and one line that needs to be dug up to be sure it is disconnected to prevent a leak in the future. One of the jobs will probably require Weaver Excavation instead of Matt Morse because Weaver has more manpower and more trucks to get the job done faster. Steve discussed with Mary about using the Town crew to do the digging for the lines to be replaced. There was also discussion on how the pavement patching should be handled.

The EPA is requiring all water systems in the country to inventory all service lines and document all lead service lines in database. The completed inventory need to be submitted by October 2024. Ted took a class outlining the details and requirements that are known at this time. The paperwork requires that for each service there needs to be an address, GPS coordinates and a variety of other information. A lead gooseneck that is less than 24" does not constitute a lead service line but needs to be documented. They are not requiring digging up lines if there is a question, but they may need to inspect inside some buildings. There will be more guidance to come. There is loan money available if an outside service is hired to do the work but right now there is not an answer on if, when or how much of that loan may need to be paid back. Ted feels that this is something they should be able to take care of their own and they will get started right away.

There are 48 past due accounts. A couple of those past due accounts have applied for assistance.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was not an analysis available, but Mary said there was plenty of money in the accounts and she expected additional payments to come in.

Mary asked the Board about changing to a new accounting program and using an outside payroll system. The Board indicated that they would agree to change these programs. They will be meeting with the potential new bookkeeper soon and this will be one of the things that will be discussed with her.

Mary would like to do some research, on behalf of the Trustees, on the VT Municipal Employee Retirement Plan as she feels it would be a better option for the employees. She will let the Board know of her findings.

Mary informed the Board that she will help get the new bookkeeper set up and about halfway through the year she will help the Board find a new Treasurer as she will be stepping down.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board would like to review the rules and regulations and update anything that needs to be updated.

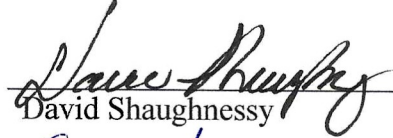
Starting in January 2023 the monthly meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month at 6 pm.


Steve moved to adjourn this meeting at 7:40 pm. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.


Respectfully submitted,


April A. Paulin
Board Secretary


Approved:


David Shaughnessy _____ Date







 1-3-23