

NORTH BENNINGTON WATER BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
7 February 2024

PRESENT: Ed Myers, Steve Goodrich, Arla Sampsell, Joe Herrmann, Ted Fela, Doug Buggee and April Paulin

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm.

MINUTES

Joe moved to approve the minutes of 3 January 2024, as presented. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

WARRANTS

Ed moved to approve the payroll warrant for 11 January – 25 January for \$12,750.14. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ed moved to approve the monthly warrant for 4 January – 2 February for \$25,822.93, check #'s 10547-10566 and 3 debits. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Doug passed out the cash balance report.

Doug met with Steve to discuss the new accounts and how to name them and how they would work. The Checking – special project account will be for anything not coming out of the regular accounts and the Money Market – Connection Fee/Special Projects will be where the money will go from the connection fees and special projects. If we need money from a reserve account the money would be transferred from the proper account. Vicki will add sub-categories to help identify where the money is going and what's left.

Doug will go ahead and open the new accounts as discussed. The money will stay in an account that will earn it the most money and be transferred as needed.

Mary has been in contact with the CPA, Cusack and Company, in Latham and she answered questions for him. Doug is still working with him to move forward.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ted finally received the report back from Neptune for the master meter that was replaced. Overall the accuracy of the meter was 99.8%.

Ted emailed the following report to the Board members ahead of tonight's meeting.

Feb. 7, 2024 Water Board Meeting Superintendent Update

- **Annual Report-** Water Board Annual Report, 2024 Budget, Meeting Dates, and 2022 Audit Report submitted for inclusion in 2023 Village Annual Report. This year's Annual Report is dedicated to Gerald Elwell. The Report is available and Lori Elwell has hard copies if anyone would like.
- **Sanitary Survey-** Conducted on 12/14/23. We have received the Sanitary Survey letter from Matthew Hunt as VT DWGPD. There are a few suggestions and items for consideration. I will provide a copy of the letter to all Water Board members.
- **Filter Maintenance-** We have been performing our routine winter maintenance on the filters. The spray bar nozzles on both filters have been cleaned. The operation of the spray bars has improved tremendously. Filter #1 has been drained and is prepped for painting. Jim has fabricated a new supports out of stainless steel to replace the originals that are corroded. He is also working on fabricating new waste gates for the filter made out of stainless steel as well.
- **Lead Service Line Inventory-** As time allows I have continued the ongoing work on the Lead Service Line Inventory that is due October 2024. Entering the data we have in our records into the provided spreadsheet is time consuming and tedious but progress is slowly being made.
- **UCMR5 Sampling-** Took first samples in EPA mandated Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5. Quarterly sampling, at no cost to us, for currently unregulated PFAS compounds and lithium.
- **Extra Night Flow-** After the cold snap in January we noticed an increase of about 50 gpm in the night flow. Many times this is indicative of a leak on the water system. We did a lot of driving around, walking cross country mains, and investigating. Most of the increase has been resolved at this point. The increase was due to several properties where pipes had frozen and broke then began to leak when they thawed. One mobile home had

a frozen meter and piping. Several, currently, vacant buildings had frozen piping. The Town of Shaftsbury system had a vacant home, in the process of being sold, where piping upstairs froze and broke causing a leak. All are shut off and/or repaired at this point.

Joe moved to accept Ted's report as written. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ted has received pricing on ordering work shirts and sweatshirts for the guys instead of using a uniform service which has become increasingly expensive. Pricing for T-shirts with logos is \$26.95-\$30 each and sweatshirts are \$70-74 each. There is a \$30 fee for the screen printing.

Ed moved to allow Ted to order work shirts and sweatshirts for the guys. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The State of Vermont Sanitary Survey letter will be on the agenda for next meeting so that the Board has a chance to write down any questions, ideas and/or recommendations for Ted. After Shaftsbury's survey is done and Ted gets the results then they can discuss the allocation for Shaftsbury.

PROJECT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

The AMP is not complete. Goals for water conservation, meters, old lines, service goals etc. still need to be set up. Ted will get them sent to Robert and he will get it sent to the State to get our money. Steve and Ted need to go up in the next week or so to get it done.

The bids have gone out for the standby generator. The total price for the generator is \$146,340 which includes \$24,574 for the additional propane tank. Steve redid the application over the phone with Amy at the State. The State requires the Board approval in writing, with signatures, to complete the process.

Ed moved to accept and proceed with the Standby Power Generator Reference# RF3-447, addendum 1. Arla seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the PFOA, the booster station for Overlea Road may be taken off of the proposal to keep the application at the top of the list. It's more important to get the people off the wells and get the Jennings line replaced. The booster station is not off the table though.

Joe moved to approve the loan application for Overlea Road and Harvest Hills, REF#RF3-551-1.O, on this level. Arla seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously. This still needs to be approved by the Trustees and it is on their agenda to do so.

Both of these motions will be typed up and sent to Ted to collect signatures and they will then be forwarded to Amy at the State so that she may proceed with the process.

On the Solar Field project Steve has been told that they have accepted the agreement. Steve may contact them to see where they are.

Next month there will be an update on projects and discussion on the State sanitary survey letter.





Steve, Ted and Joe have been working on updating the rules and regulations. Robert has worked with systems that have connection fees, users fees etc. so it will be helpful to talk with him.

Arla moved to adjourn this meeting at 8:07 pm. Ed seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

April A. Paulin
Board Secretary

Approved:

 Steve Goodrich	<u>3/6/24</u> Date	 Joseph Herrmann	<u>3-6-24</u> Date
 Edward Myers	<u>3/6/24</u> Date	 Arla Sampsell	 Date