

NORTH BENNINGTON WATER BOARD  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
6 MARCH 2024

**PRESENT:** Steve Goodrich, Ed Myers, Joe Herrmann, Ted Fela, Doug Buggee

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm

**MINUTES**

There was one addition to the minutes and one correction; on the third page where Ed made the motion to allow Ted to order new work shirts it should also state the approval to cancel the existing uniforms. On page 3 under Project and Committee Reports it should state the booster station on Harvest Hills and not Overlea Road. Ed moved to approve the minutes of 7 February 2024, as corrected. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**WARRANTS**

Joe moved to approve the payroll warrant for 8 February – 6 March for the gross amount of \$12,884.44. Ed seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Doug and Vicki will track the reimbursement payment for the State for the purchase of the hydrants from Ferguson. Once everything is complete Doug will email Steve with all the information so that it is on file.

There was discussion about the electric bill for the well field and building. The Board will look into getting a LP gas furnace instead of the electric one and seeing what else they can do to cut back on the bill.

Ed moved to approve the monthly warrant for 8 February – 6 March for \$37,102.36, check #'s 10567-10588 and 10590-10591. Check number 10589 was voided.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Doug opened the special project checking account but will wait to open the money market account until we've collected money to put in it.

The CPA firm in Latham that Doug and Mary were working with has notified Doug that they can't take on us or the Village. They just lost a long time partner and just can't take on anyone new at this time. He will check with his contacts and see if he can get any leads. Doug has a couple in the Clifton Park area to contact. Hopefully he can find someone in the next month or two.

Doug will send a letter to the guy they were dealing with to thank him for all his help and let him know if we are unhappy with whoever we find he will be at the top of our list for a replacement.

Vicki has talked with Steve about billing quarterly instead of twice a year to help with the cash flow. Doug is very much in favor of this as it will help from having to move money around as much. This may also help customers keep current with their bills.

Ed moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ted emailed the following report to the Board:

- **Filter Maintenance-** We have been performing our routine winter maintenance on the filters. Filter #1 has been painted. We are allowing two weeks for the paint to properly cure before placing the filter back into service. We will also be adding anthracite charcoal media to the filters to bring the media level within the recommendations of the manufacturer. Jim is currently fabricating new waste gates for the filter made out of stainless steel to replace the originals.
- **Air Compressors-** Annual maintenance, new belts, oil change, and air filters, has been performed on the air compressors.
- **Online Class-** Jim and I attended an online rate setting class hosted by RCAP Solutions on 2/20/24. The class was free to attend.
- **Blue Flame-** During the cleaning of the filtration plant boiler Blue Flame indicated the gas pressure needed to be addressed as there was a significant difference between flow and regulator lock up. They discovered the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage regulator needed to be replaced. Proposal for replacement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage regulator was \$2030.00. The replacement was completed on 2/28/24.
- **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.

- **Truck Tires-** Water Department truck needs new non-winter tires. Zach has requested pricing from several dealers in the area. I will have pricing available at the Water Board meeting.
- **Remaining Grant Funds-** 5- fire hydrants and 3- flushing hydrants have been purchased from Ferguson Waterworks. The purchase has been approved by USDA Rural Development as a reimbursable expense. This should use up almost all of the remaining grant funds.

Steve wanted to comment on Jim fabricating the new waste gates and what a great benefit it was that he could do that. That saved us a lot of money.

Zach got quotes for new truck tires that Ted gave to the Board. Myers bid was \$860, Wassick's was \$900, Big Boy Toys was \$912, Town Fair was \$925 and Scott's A+ Auto was \$1094.

Joe moved to approve Myers Auto's bid for \$860. Ed seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Steve has 2 names left to ask about serving on the Board. It is getting harder and harder to find someone who wants to serve on a board. People have families and need some experience so it makes it hard.

### **PROJECT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Standby generator – the Board's paperwork is done and the State's paperwork is done. The contract was sent to Brookfield Electric who was awarded the contract. They have 10 days to get it signed and will get a schedule, etc. back to the State. Once that is done Steve will contact Amy Gilford to find out how long it will take so that he can get the bill to her right away.

The paperwork for the waterlines on Overlea Road and Harvest Hills is done and submitted to Amy and she has sent it to the bond bank for review. Robert is finishing up his 30% of the paperwork and figures it will be done next Friday.

Our lawyer has heard nothing more on the solar field project. He will give it a little longer before he contacts them and see what's going on.

Ted is concentrating on getting his work done on the AMP. He sent a draft to Robert to give him something to start with.

Robert is getting some information about connection fees that other towns are doing and once he has that information to Steve he'll present it to the Board.

Steve, Joe and Ted have been busy with other things so they have not gotten together over the rules and regulations. They are hoping to do so in the next couple of weeks.


Steve would like to get together with Ted and see if there was something different we could have done with Galen to avoid the outcome. One thing Steve would like in the rules and regulations is that we can't be sued if we are doing our due diligence in finding the leak.


Ed moved to adjourn this meeting at 8:10 pm. Joe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.


Respectfully submitted,

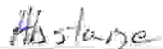
April A. Paulin  
Board Secretary

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Goodrich Date

 4-3-24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Herrmann Date

 4-3-24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward Myers Date

 Absence  
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Arla Sampsell Date