

A meeting of the Town of Barnstable's Hyannis Water Board was held on February 10, 2009 at 3:15 PM in the Growth Management Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA.

In attendance were Deb Krau, Skip Simpson, Rebecca Baxter, and Peter Cross.

Staff present were Dale Saad, Ph.D., Senior Project Manager, Hans Keijser, Supervisor, Water Supply Division and Johanna Boucher, Purchasing Agent.

A quorum being present, Chair Krau called the meeting to order at 3:20 PM.

The Agenda was approved.

The Minutes of December 13, 2008 minutes were approved as amended. The Minutes of January 13, 2009 minutes were approved as written.

Update on extension of the Whitewater Pennichuck contract to June 30. The bottom line is that we had to work with the existing moneys remaining for this fiscal year. Utilities and some materials will be paid by the Town. Spring flushing will be done, the large water tank emptied and cleaned in the spring, along with some building maintenance and repair.

Cost of System Survey – Keijser used Krau's scope and got a price from Chris Woodcock, who would sub out the work to a North Carolina firm, for \$20,000 but not very complete. Steve Alcott proposed a budget of \$30,000 but he is not available. Tighe & Bond gave a detailed price of \$48,000 with contingencies. Keijser recommends doing this study at \$48,000. Krau said she doesn't think it will cost that much but it is easier to ask for the money and turn it back than to ask for more later. Cross is concerned about the price spread among the various quotes. Simpson said using \$48,000 advertises our willingness to pay that amount.

Boucher said the T&B scope was good for getting out an RFP out quickly. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to proceed with an RFP subject to appropriation of funds to pay for it.

Approval of Rules and Regulations – Krau is still talking with Legal on approval of the draft. The Board began a page by page review of the draft. There is a question on the violations and penalties. Are they enacted by passage of the Rules and Regulations or by change to the Administrative Code or by Town Council vote? Can fines go into the fee schedule or should the dollar amount be in the Rules and Regulations? Does it need to go to the Town Council?

Section 2.9 was removed.

Section 2.15 indicates there is no liability for what happens to pipes – should it allude to the Linebacker program?

The Barnstable Fire Academy is the only remaining commercial fixture account. The Board decided that the Academy will receive a meter sometime in FY2010 and be billed for metered water usage commencing on January 1, 2010. Keijser will send a letter to the Fire Academy advising them of the change. Keijser estimated the cost to install the meter is \$10,000.

A Motion was made and seconded to accept the draft Rules and Regulations as amended and with the exclusion of violations.

VOTE – Unanimous

Report of the proposed Hilton Hotel – The gist is that there is enough existing water pressure for the hotel, but only by assuming that no one else will need more water. Krau has met with Growth Management and the Fire Department. Fire management is an issue and they will be going to hearings and talking to Weston & Sampson. The plan is before the Planning Board on February 17th – does the Board want to say anything? Weston & Sampson says the hotel can do be built as proposed, but if it is, then no other property owner can do anything – is this an issue? The assumption is that the proposed building will be a very fire resistant building, however, if this changes, then it would be a problem. The Fire Department has concerns. Simpson asked – what if someone else comes along wishing to expand their property in a way that would increase fire flows?. Answer – then they would have to upgrade the mains. According to W&S, the present system is sufficient to provide fire protection to the new building. Simpson would not like to see the last person in getting hosed.

Keijser said you can develop fire flows by looking at the exterior of the building. There are no sprinklers on the outside of the building and that determines the critical fire flow. It is a more expensive way to go and would use the entire capacity in the area. There is then an adjustment to be made for interior sprinklers at 75%; the roof covering adjustment further decreases the need. With a 65% reduction to 1500 gpm, it is below 2830 gpm of required fire flow calculated from the exterior. The Fire Department is concerned about fighting a fire from the outside. The present plans have a minimum buffer to the available water supply, it is close to deficient for fire flow.

Krau said the Weston and Sampson report puts the credibility of W&S to question. Simpson said we have a responsibility to tell the Planning Board what we know. Cross suggested a letter from Krau stating that the Board is concerned about the tone of the W&S letter based on the information W&S has provided the Fire Department. The letter would include all pertinent information in the W&S report. Krau will submit the email correspondence between W&S and the Fire Department to the Planning Board. She will also send a letter to Bruce Adams expressing concern that the final report will be reviewed as saying this project will have no impact. There are reasonable concerns that are not addressed in report to the developer for the Planning Board.

Krau advised the Board that the Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife Division has a request regarding the Water District and Airport land comprised of the Mary Dunn fields and wells. The land around this land is by owned by Fish and Wildlife. The State would like to build a bike path in the vicinity on State land. Fish and Wildlife would like the path to be located near to Route 6 to avoid the need for more than a 500' buffer away from hunting activities. In exchange they are asking for the ability to use some of our land, maybe with a conservation easement. This may conflict with the water withdrawal permit – Krau sent the DEP regulations and permit clauses to Senator O'Leary and asked through his aide, Sue Rohrbach, why Fish and Wildlife needs more than what we already provide.

Simpson doesn't feel relocating the proposed path is in the best interest of the ratepayers. Cross feels there may be more to it than is known. We would be giving away our property rights. This needs to be brought to public light. The Board agreed that it needs more information. We are not sure why this easement is needed, or if any additional regulations are needed aside from whatever is already in place.

There will be an internal staff meeting with Growth Management on water tower siting on February 24 at 11:30 in the GM conference room.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Geoffrion