

Board of Water Commissioners meeting minutes
June 12, 2024,

The meeting was called to order by Mike at 7:48am. Those in attendance were Mike Corda, Bob Frederico, Matthew Pearson, Wendy Graves, Dave Erickson and Adam Rauktis.

1. A motion was made by Bob to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2024 meeting. Second by Mike, Voted unanimously in favor.
2. **Appointments:** None
3. **Correspondence:** None
4. **Treasurer's report:** was read by Wendy. Motion made by Mike to accept, second by Bob, voted unanimously in favor.
5. **Business Manager report:** Board approved Matt to sign the Tighe and Bond preliminary design contract for PFAS for \$425,000 for East and Worcester Street. Motion made by Bob, second by Mike, voted unanimously in favor.
6. See attached for other items.
7. **Superintendent Report:** - Pigeon Hill Booster station startup was done June 10th. Drainage issues were discussed and will be worked on during the final stages of completion of the project.
8. Taylor Joncas was hired as an operator.
9. Appreciation lunch scheduled for September 19th.
10. Pilot study continuing at Worcester St.
11. Sanitary survey items being worked on and fixed prior to all deadlines and turned into DEP.
12. Violation notices to be sent out in the mail about the issue we had last summer at East St. with equipment failure.
13. **Old business:** None
14. **New business:** None

Next Monthly meeting will be July 10, 2024 @ 7:45am

Meeting Adjourned by Mike second by Bob voted unanimously -8:44am

David Erickson

BUSINESS MANAGERS AGENDA ITEMS

1. RATE INCREASE: We need to vote on a rate increase to start receiving revenue for PFAS design and permitting related expenses. Overall, we need to increase rates over the next few years (approximately 60%) pending actual bidding results. I recommend that we increase the rates by 10% for the next four quarters. (average water bill 20,000 gallons goes from \$126 to \$200 a quarter) **MOTION TO INCREASE RATES BY 10% FOR THE NEXT FOUR QUARTERS.** Motion by Bob to increase 10% for the next four quarters, second by Mike voted unanimously in favor.
2. We presently charge 10% above our standard rates for outside of District usage. I recommend that we increase that to 25%. **MOTION TO INCREASE OUTSIDE OF DISTRICT WATER RATES FROM 10% TO 25%.** Motion made by Bob to increase outside of District rates, second by Mike Voted unanimously in favor.
3. It is apparent by the memo from Wright-Pierce and discussing this with Adam and Dave that the best location for the Trinity Ave treatment plant is now Follette street field. This is a result of discussions with DEP about future issues that might arise with Follette street and that funding from SRF is more likely by combining two sources. **MOTION TO LOCATE TRINITY AVE PFAS PLANT AT THE FOLLETTE STREET PROPERTY.** Motion by Bob to locate plant at Follette St site, second by Mike voted unanimously in favor.
4. I recommend that we set a date of August 14th after our regular monthly Commissioners meeting to have a Special meeting to fund the Trinity Ave PFAS project. **MOTION TO CALL SPECIAL MEETING FOR AUGUST 14, 2024 AT 8:00 AM.** Motion by Mike to call special meeting, second by Bob voted unanimously in favor.
5. Mike, Dave and I have worked on the benefit package that is presently in the Personnel Rules and Regulations and recommend the attached changes. This will make us more competitive and help retain employees. **MOTION TO ACCEPT CHANGES TO THE PERSONNEL RULES AND REGULATIONS.** Motion made by Bob to accept changes, second by Mike voted unanimously in favor.
6. I recently renewed our contract for “supply side” electric usage. I have worked with a broker for many years and our last contract saved us \$278,768.00 dollars over the last four years. By buying into and renewing our existing contract now we can lock in a great rate. This contract will extend our present one by 3 years.
7. None of us thought that we would be doing 43 million dollars of PFAS plants three years ago. Dave and Adam have transitioned into their position well and it WAS time for me to ride off into the sunset later this year. However, Dave has asked, and I think it is necessary to stay on until the end of 2026 to bring the District through the financing, design and start of construction of the three plants. I am willing to do that. My responsibilities will primarily be PFAS related, with the balance being an advisor to the Board and staff. I have attached a new contract that will supersede the existing contract. **MOTION TO EXTEND CONTRACT FOR MATT AS PRESENTED.** Motion by bob to extend contract as presented, second by Mike voted unanimously in favor.
8. I am working on an interconnection agreement with Shrewsbury to include the UPS area in our agreement. There are some revisions that are needed to the agreement such as water rate, maximum volume allowed and area to be included.
9. The Doris Drive retaining wall project design is complete and should go in front of conservation commission soon.

10. The Rules and Regulations need clarification on where a water main or service needs to be extended to on a street. Request that we can make that change. **MOTION TO ALLOW SUPERINTENDENT AND BUSINESS MANAGER TO ADD LANGUAGE TO CLARIFY.** Bob made a motion to allow Superintendent and business manager to add language to clarify rules and regs. Second by Mike, voted unanimously in favor.
11. The Follette Street Water Management Act change will only require an amendment and not a full new submittal. I am working with our hydrogeologist to get his submitted. We need to increase pumping when some of the other wells may be down during the PFAS treatment plant construction.