

RYE WATER DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING
December 4, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Attendance:

Art Ditto, Commission Chair
Ralph Hickson, Commissioner
Tom Clifford, Commissioner

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Darren Prince, Asst. Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

II. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, Data Report and Bacteria Tests for November

Superintendent Arik Jones reviewed the monthly report and pumping chart for the month of November.

- Monthly samples in November showed a hit at the sample tap on Washington Road. Additional samples were taken as a follow up and all tests have passed at this time.
- Electrical Installations has started work on the VFD drive installation.
- The area in which the break on Parsons Road had occurred in October, has now passed multiple bacteria tests and the main has been activated to the system.
- PFOA samples have been drawn for this month; however, the results have not yet been received. Those results will be going to the State. The sample lab confirmed that they will be following the requirements that were set forth by DES.
Superintendent Jones explained that water purveyors have been slated to pull samples for quarter four of 2019 and the next three quarters in 2020. Those samples will dictate whether the Water District will need to continue sampling annually, semi-annually or every three years.
Chair Ditto noted that three entities sued the State saying that the rules for PFOA sampling were not properly formulated. A judge has ruled an injunction against the State implementing the new rules. However, he thinks the District should continue this sampling. The commissioners agreed.
- The new operator, Greg Vaillancourt, has started in his position, as of November 18th. He is still in the training stage but seems to be a good fit for the District.
- Tom Pfau from the Rye Energy Committee would like to meet with the commissioners on December 18th. He has more information on the solar energy panels he would like to share.

- Brian from BCK has been contacted regarding the proposed roadway for the well access. He has not yet been out to the site; however, it is intended that drilling will start soon, starting at the Cedar Run property. Wetland Scientist Mark Jacobs has been out to the site to mark the wetlands. Mr. Jacobs has reported back to Wright-Pierce on his findings.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to accept the superintendent's report for the month of November. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

III. Review minutes from the November meeting

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the minutes of November 13, 2019 as presented. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

IV. Correspondence:

- **Rand Site Walk – Greg Smith/Sally King**
An email was received regarding the Rand site walk with the Conservation Commission on Thursday, December 5th at 9:00 a.m.
- **Rye Energy Committee Solar Energy Report**
The Rye Energy Committee's Solar Energy Report was sent to the Commissioners for their review. Tom Pfau will be meeting with the commission on November 18th.

V. Treasurer's Report – September & October

- **Not Available**

VI. Cash Flow Report – November

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow report for the month of November. There were no areas of concern noted.

Motion by Tom Clifford to accept the cash flow report for the month of November. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

VII. Town Planning & Zoning Minutes

- The development at the corner of Wallis Road and Ocean Blvd is still before the Planning Board. The townhouse development at the end of Washington Road is in the final stages of Planning Board review.
The Housing Partnership received an 18-month extension from the Planning Board for the development at Airfield Drive.

VIII. Old Business:

- **Groundwater Investigation Proposal – Wright-Pierce**

The Commission reviewed the Groundwater Investigation Proposal from Wright-Pierce. It was agreed that Wright-Pierce should continue with the Cedar Run drilling and field work, which could be covered through encumbered funds. The next stages would move forward after the budget has been voted on in March. It was also agreed that the Rand site should be put on hold for now. Superintendent Jones will follow up with Chris Berg from Wright-Pierce.

The Commission reviewed the proposal sent from Michael Bean, 112 Grove Road. They did not have any concerns with what was being proposed.

Superintendent Jones suggested that he reach out to Rick Skarinka, NH DES, regarding cutting in the Wellhead Protection area. Once that information is received, the proposed agreement will go to Attorney Scott for his review. Superintendent Jones will also follow up with Mr. Bean to keep him informed.

IX. New Business:

- **Resignation of Treasurer, Andrea Morrissey
Appointment of interim treasurer – Amy Thibodeau**

Chair Ditto read a letter from Treasurer Andrea Morrissey regarding her resignation as treasurer.

Motion by Tom Clifford to accept the resignation of Andrea Morrissey as treasurer. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to appoint Amy Thibodeau as treasurer to fill the remaining term until March 2020. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

X. Other Business:

The Commissioners spoke with Superintendent Arik Jones regarding his accumulated vacation time and his proposal for unused time. The Commissioners felt comfortable with allowing a three week vacation buyback, out of the accumulated five weeks. They also agreed that moving forward, vacation time for all employees should be planned for at the beginning of the year and monitored closely.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the proposal from Arik Jones for a three week vacation buyback for unused vacation time with the stipulation that the carried over time has to be used in 2020 or will be forfeited. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to give the employees an annual holiday bonus, as has been done in the past, with the new hire receiving a bonus in accordance with his date of hire. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

- **Encumbrances**

Motion by Ralph Hickson to encumber \$399,000 from Extension and Improvements for the Route 1A project. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to encumber up to \$90,477 from the 2019 encumbrances, less any bills received up to December 31st, for groundwater source investigation and Garland well pump house upgrade. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger