

## WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Board of Water Commissioners met in open session on Tuesday, January 5, 2016. The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Westfield Municipal Building, Room 201.

Those in attendance were: Water Commissioners Ronald Cole, Chair; Matthew Barnes, Secretary; Michael Burns, Sr., Member; Public Works Director David Billips; Water Resources Systems Engineer Charles Darling; Deputy Wastewater Superintendent Jeff Gamelli; Budget Analyst Joanna Williams; City Engineer Mark Cressotti; Recording Secretary Angela Bolduc.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Budget Analyst Joanna Williams stated she would like to sponsor an open house to honor the National Drinking Water Week. The first week of May the Public Works - Water Division will offer tours of the Granville Reservoir and promote the Water Treatment Plant.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

**Change Order – Gagliarducci Construction**

City Engineer Mark Cressotti presented the Board with a request for a change order for the Gas Light District project. This change order covers various items under Contractor's PCOs 33 and 35. PCO 34's proposed change to allow the surface treatment of concrete surfaces to prevent spalling needs the Board's concurrence to send to the Board of Public Works for final approval

Motion made by Commissioner Barnes to approve Change Order No. 10 to Bid No. 2449 (PCO 33 & 35) in the amount of \$24,389.00, awarded to Gagliarducci Construction. Approval of PCO 34 for surface treatment of concrete is to be determined by the Board of Public Works.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Burns. Motion approved.

**Gary & Kelly Drive sanitary sewer– R Levesque Associates**

Mark Cressotti requested award of a contract to R. Levesques Associates to design Gary & Kelly Drive sanitary sewer expansion –

Motion made by Commissioner Barnes to approve \$29,100.00 awarded to RL Associates for work associated with the design of sanitary sewer in the Bigwoods, Gary Dr. & Kelly Drive areas with the amount of \$3,000.00 to be expended in fiscal year 2016 to start Phase I investigative work.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Burns. Motion approved.

**Recommendations for a 20M sanitary sewer bond**

Mark Cressotti discussed with the Board the six (6) year sanitary sewer rate increase recently passed by the City Council. Mr. Cressotti informed the board that a 20 million dollar bond is now needed to fund projects that have been on hold for a number of years. These include booster pumping station upgrades, sewer extensions, and treatment plant improvements.

Motion made by Commissioner Barnes to approve a request for a \$20,000,000.00 bond authorization for sanitary sewer improvements per letter from the City Engineer dated January 4, 2016, for the period 2016-2022. Motion seconded by Commissioner Burns. Motion approved

**Recommendations for a 5M water system improvement bond**

Mark Cressotti informed the Board that planned Old Town improvements including improvements needed for the new Ashley Street School will require bonding in the amount of 5 million dollars.

Motion made by Commissioner Barnes to approve a request for a \$5,000,000.00 bond authorization for Old Town water system improvements. Motion seconded by Commissioner Burns. Motion approved.

**WSU booster pump station Waiver** – the Commissioners signed the waiver for the Booster Pumping Station need for the new science building at Westfield State University. This waiver was approved during the December 2015 meeting.

**Review of Water Abatement Policy** – the commission reviewed the current abatement policy. On recommendation of the Director the Board agreed that the maximum water consumption qualifying for abatement on a disputed bill should be adjusted to a percentage of excess usage. It was decided that the maximum abatement amount allowed will be 70% of the excess water consumption usage. The Board requested a revised policy for the February meeting.

**Overtime Reports** – The December Overtime Reports were given to the Commissioners. The Board had no questions regarding the reports.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Commissioner Barnes to approve the minutes as written for the December 1, 2015 meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners; Motion seconded by Commissioner Burns, Motion Approved

**Project updates –**

Director Billips informed the Board that effective January 11, 2016 Francis Cain has been promoted to Assistant Director of Public Works. Among his other duties Fran will be responsible for vehicle and equipment procurement, assume responsibility for facility upgrades and manage departmental projects.

Systems Engineer Darling informed the Board that the department had submitted all required documents for reimbursement from FEMA for the spillway collapse due to Hurricane Irene. The Board was also informed that responses from the West Springfield RFP for carbon offsets had been received and were being reviewed.

Director Billips informed the Board that on January 11, 2016 Water Systems Engineer, Charles Darling has been with the city for twenty – five (25) years.

The next meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners will be on Tuesday, February 2, 2016.

**Adjourn**

Motion made by Commissioner Barnes to adjourn; Motion seconded by Commissioner Burns, Motion approved. ADJOURN: 8:59 P.M.

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Chairman

*Matthew Barnes*

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Secretary

*[Signature]*  
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Member