

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Meeting August 5, 2019

Minutes

In attendance: Courtney Manning, Chairman

Doug Decesare, Board member

Kevin Bartlett, DPW Superintendent

Steven Jones, Water foreman

Ralph Gifford, resident

Call meeting to order at 5:30PM. Read and approve minutes from 6/24/19.

861 George Hill Road abatement request:

Ralph Gifford residing at 861 George Hill Road requests an abatement on his water bill due to another leak on the property. The first leak on the property was noticed and fixed immediately. The second leak was found in a field during winter. It appeared to be an obvious problem, but a contractor claimed the pipe was fine and an abatement wasn't requested at that time. Mr. Gifford called and asked if there was any way to detect a future leak, if possible. In the spring, another leak occurred but wasn't detectable due to all the water from winter's thaw. Water foreman Steven Jones noticed a high read for the July bill and called the Giffords immediately. It is possible that a month of the leak may be on the next bill, as well. Mr. Gifford informed the board that the whole line has been replaced.

Chairman Manning felt it fair to fill the usage at the lowest tier, and made a motion to do so. All in favor. Mr. Gifford was advised to return after the next bill for abatement.

Apple Knoll Farm:

After calculating the usage and cost for what Apple Knoll Farm used to flush their system, it was determined that they hadn't used more than the minimum amount, so it was decided that there was nothing to abate.

Bolton Fair abatement request:

The DPW office failed to process paperwork in time, so a request was made to abate the \$30.18 interest charge. Member Decesare made a motion to approve the request, with Chairman Manning seconding the motion.

Highway:

The street sweeper needs \$4,000-\$5,000 in parts for the conveyor and bearings. There is a quote of \$225,000 for a new sweeper. The money could be available from Chapter 90. Member Decesare requested an approximate total in what has been spent in maintenance on the sweeper. Supt. Bartlett estimated near \$3,000 in the last few years. Chairman Manning made note the time taken to make the repairs to this machine takes away from the regular job, and advised to look into a trade in value since this machine is 20 years old.

Next year, we are due to purchase a new 10-Wheeler.

Flail mower has been repaired and continues to be maintained.

Basins are due to be repaired, and some drainage jobs are lined up.

The new one-ton has been lettered, as well as wiring, lights, and radio installed.

Water:

Last week there was a service leak, as well as a service replacement on George Hill Road. The top of a gate box was replaced on Ponakin. Tomorrow, the service at 76 Mill Street will be removed.

Water foreman Jones requested a revision in the Water Rules and Regulations- 2-4" meters require testing rather than 3-4" meters. He wishes to send notices, but he isn't clear on the repercussions of failing to comply. Chairman Manning recommended the wording be typed up to be voted on in the next meeting, but follow the wording already written in terms of enforcing the required testing.

Cemetery:

Pat Mclaughlin has been in helping when he is able. No maintenance issues have turned up with equipment.

Superintendent's Correspondence:

The gentleman who painted the DPW buildings is looking to paint again. It would cost \$12,000 to \$14,000 for all three buildings, and we could use Chapter 90.

Member Decesare pointed out that the cemetery and highway signs still need to be done. Supt. Bartlett responded we have to wait until September to have them done.

Public comment:

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 6:15PM, all in favor.

Next meeting: August 19th, 2019.

Courtney Manning, Chairman

John King, Jr., Member

Doug Decesare, Member
