

Trustees of the Belfast Water District met on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. (originally scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2020) at the Little River Station office. The following Trustees were in attendance Stephen Hall, Kenneth Colby Horne, Bruce Osgood, Henry Chalmers, Eileen Dubinett, and the Superintendent, Keith Pooler and his Administrative Assistant, Tammy Morse.

Stephen Hall, the Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**VOTED:** On a motion made by Henry Chalmers, seconded by Eileen Dubinett and unanimously approved, to accept the Minutes of the regularly scheduled board meeting of July 13, 2020.

The Board discussed the date for the next board meeting and agreed upon, Monday, September 14, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

Keith Pooler presented his Superintendent's report to the Board of Trustees.

The Belfast Water District received a dividend check of \$1,840 from Maine Municipal Association for our good loss experience and loss prevention programs.

The City of Belfast's sewer project on Charles Street is progressing. The District is waiting for the sewer main to be installed before we start the installation of our water main. The test holes have been performed, and the materials were ordered. The contractor expects to begin in a few more weeks.

Tractor Supply made the connection of their 8-inch water main off the existing 12-inch main at Belmont Avenue. It was agreed to remove the cap and reduce the service to an 8-inch with a tee and a future gate valve to extend the main for prospective businesses. A new 6-inch sprinkler and a new 1 1/2-inch domestic will be added to the system. Pressure testing and chlorinating will be done soon.

Having more gate valves on Swan Lake Avenue would benefit the water system to isolate a smaller area when there is a leak. On Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, a leak was repaired in front of the mobile home park at 104 Swan Lake Avenue which caused a full shutdown for all customers on Swan Lake Avenue and Smart Road. The 1-inch service that feeds the park on Cardinal Way had a leak in the middle of the road and near the 12-inch water main. We later found that instead of a standard water service installation, this 1-inch service came across the street at a 90-degree angle, then parallel with the 12-inch main which made it difficult to pinpoint the leak. To renew the water service, we cut the service on the park side and on the water main side, then fed a cable through the old water service under the road. Considering how hot it was while repairing the service, the crew did a great job!

This morning, the crew collected the Lead and Copper water samples from our customers who participated in the Maine Drinking Water Program testing requirement. Every three years, the District has a Lead and Copper testing requirement of 20 customer sites with old interior pipes with lead solder. Our customers cooperate to help us meet this testing requirement. The customer collects a water sample from within their home after an extended period (minimum of 6-hours) of stagnant water conditions within their interior piping. This sample must be from the first draw, then taken to the lab. Within 30 days of receiving the test results, we notify our customers of their sample test results taken from their home.

Many applications and resumes have been received for the Water Operator position. The plan is to start the interview process by the end of August and hire a new employee by the end of September. Keith mentioned that it is time to consider an added incentive for each water license earned. Most utilities of our size offer a 50-cent per

hour raise per Distribution and Treatment license; some utilities give a \$1 per hour raise for each license earned. For a water system of our size, a Class II license is required. Dustin Howes has earned three out of the four licenses required. The Board suggested presenting this subject as a whole in November and a vote in December effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. A Class III, Water Distribution and Treatment license is required to be a Superintendent of a water system.

After attending the Maine Department of Transportation meeting last month, it was determined that the Goose River Bridge Project would install a temporary road on both sides of the bridge this Fall. Our portion will not start until the Spring, unless the road affects our existing water main. Northeast Paving/Eurovia Atlantic Coast LLC won the bid. The scheduled completion date for this project is November 2021.

Keith reminded the Trustees of Harold's open house on Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Little River Station office and his retirement dinner at Young's Lobster Pound on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Harold has been a great employee for the Belfast Water District. The Belfast Water District wishes to extend a special thank you to Harold Dyer for his 42-years of dedicated service!

This past month the crew has been:

- painting hydrants
- minor repairs to the hydrants
- routine maintenance at the wells
- installing new ventilation fans at the wells

Nordic Aquafarms Chief Financial Officer, Brenda Chandler, keeps us informed biweekly with updates as the deadline approaches. Our Civil Engineer, Thomas Fowler, is investigating what needs to happen to build on the Crocker Road land and the cost for remediation by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Upcoming this month, the crew will:

- start the Charles Street main extension pending the City's sewer is complete
- continue to paint hydrants, do minor repairs and general maintenance
- repair a water leak on Bayview Street below Union Street

The electrical work at Smart Road well is about 30% finished, the issue with the low CL2 alarm is still a problem.

**VOTED:** On a motion made by Bruce Osgood, seconded by Kenneth Colby Horne and unanimously approved, to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m.



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Eileen Dubinett, Secretary