

Trustees of the Belfast Water District met on Monday, December 10, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. at the Little River Station office. The following Trustees were in attendance: Stephen Hall, Kenneth Colby Horne, Henry Chalmers, Bruce Osgood, Eileen Dubinett, and the Superintendent, Keith Pooler.

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 November 19, 2018.

The Board discussed the date of the next board meeting and agreed upon, Monday, January 14, 2019, at 1:00 p.m.

The Superintendent, Keith Pooler, reported to the Board the estimate he obtained in the amount of \$13,000 to demolish and dispose of the buildings at 86 Smart Road. This estimate includes renting an excavator, hiring DM & J Waste to tear down and remove the buildings. The Board discussed renovating the house but concluded it would cost much more than \$13,000, plus the District purchased this property as a central location if a treatment plant is ever necessary.

**VOTED:** On a motion made by Bruce Osgood seconded by Henry Chalmers and unanimously approved, to authorize up to \$13,000 for the demolition and disposal of the buildings on the District's property at 86 Smart Road.

Keith informed the Board that he spoke with W. C. Tripp Forest Products about the timeline to harvest the District's properties. Wayne Tripp stated he could start towards the end of the winter unless the District would consider waiting until summer when the price of wood increases.

Request to enter into Executive Session to discuss a real estate matter.

**VOTED:** On a motion made by Henry Chalmers seconded by Eileen Dubinett and unanimously approved, to enter into Executive Session at 1:12 p.m. to discuss a real estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S. 405(6)C.

**VOTED:** On a motion made by Henry Chalmers seconded by Eileen Dubinett and unanimously approved, to adjourn from the Executive Session at 1:20 p.m. on a real estate matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S. 405(6)C.

The regularly scheduled board meeting resumed at 1:21 p.m.

Keith continued with his report that he, Donald Hahn, and Dustin Howes attended the Maine Rural Water Association Technical Conference on December 5th earning Technical Credit Hours towards the required licensing. This conference is beneficial to keep apprised of the changes occurring in water utility operations. Keith said he attended an interesting class that described a new technology known as 'Pipe Bursting'. Pipe bursting is a trenchless method of replacing buried water mains without the need for a traditional construction trench. This method is the ideal pipe replacement technique for various pipe types. Water mains can be increased two sizes above the existing size. The Belfast Water District has one mile of 8" cast iron cross-country water main from Jackson Pit well to Smart Road well that was installed in 1965. Keith communicated to the Board that this main needs to be replaced in the near future, so he asked Tim Sawtelle of Dirigo Engineering and Matt Timberlake of Ted Berry Company to walk the main next spring to get an estimate to upgrade to 12" HDPE pipe.

The Lincolnville Avenue Booster Station pumps out for repair are not complete.

Keith informed the Board that on November 26<sup>th</sup> in the late afternoon until midnight, we repaired an 8" water main break in front of 24 Church Street, the Old Peirce School's 2" water service. It took 90 minutes to shut down the water main, losing 2,500 gallons of water per minute plus 200,000 gallons to flush the main after the repair. This job was very difficult with a 15" storm drain directly over the top of the water main where it broke. Customers on Church Street from Elm Street to Northport Avenue down to Salmond Street were without water. During the break, we also found an inoperable 4" gate valve at Allyn Street and Northport Avenue which will be replaced in the near future; and our pipe saw blew up, and we had to buy a new one for just under \$1,500 from Viking Lumber. Keith expressed a "thank you" to the Belfast Public Works crew for keeping leaves out of catch basin which made our repair to the water main much easier. The Old Peirce School's water service will be renewed in the spring.

Keith expressed to the Board that he intended to discuss the 2019 employee wages; however, the employee evaluations are not done and asked to postpone until the January board meeting. As the Board requested at last month's board meeting, Keith stated that Tammy Morse, the Administrative Assistant, compiled the total compensation figures for each employee to go along with their evaluation. Henry Chalmers questioned if the new wages will be retroactive to January 1st and the Board concurred they would.

Keith reported the crew's other activity since the last board meeting and continuing into next month:

- Checking hydrants
- Year-end inventory
- Well maintenance

The Board reviewed the amendment to the Employee Handbook to add the Dental Plan and the Vision Plan to the employee benefits package as approved at the November 19, 2018, Board Meeting.

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

  

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Eileen Dubinett