

Trustees of the Belfast Water District met on Monday, May 14, 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. then welcomed Morten and Joanne Moesswilde to discuss the Upper Reservoir property with the Board of Trustees. Mr. and Mrs. Moesswilde expressed that the community would like to have the Board's approval to start the process to acquire the Upper Reservoir property. The Moesswilde's voiced that this request is a preservation effort for conservation, public access, recreation and to keep the reservoir property forever wild as the Belfast Community Forest. They have reached out to Maine Coast Heritage Trust as well as Coastal Mountains Land Trust and they are supportive of this effort and will engage if there proves to be broader community support. Keith shared that not only is the dam no longer a water source of supply, but there is much involved to restore the condition of the dam as determined by the site inspection in 2015 by Maine Emergency Management Agency. The Belfast Water District Trustees voted in March 2017 to possibly relinquish ownership of the Upper Reservoir Dam; therefore, to get the value of the property, a Comparative Market Analysis was done. Keith mentioned that if the community's interest is to pursue this acquisition, it will be a slow process, at least eight months through the Maine Public Utilities Commission (MPUC).

VOTED: On a motion made by Bruce Osgood seconded by Henry Chalmers and unanimously approved, to accept the Minutes of the regularly scheduled board meeting of April 9, 2018, and the special board meeting of April 23, 2018.

The Board discussed the date of the next board meeting and agreed upon, Monday, June 11, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.

Keith presented his Superintendent's report to the Board.

Since the last board meeting, the Town of Northport has been the primary focus of our Case 2018-00043 with the MPUC. The Town of Northport scheduled a Special Town Meeting on April 25, 2018, to see if the voters of the Town of Northport will vote to exercise the right of first refusal to purchase the property of the Belfast Water District identified in Northport as Tax Map U1, Lot 6. The results of the Special Town Meeting were 27 votes against purchasing the property and 15 votes in favor. On April 27, 2018, the MPUC Examiners Report stated the District has complied with the requirements concerning the proposed sale of the property to Nordic Aquafarms and the City of Belfast; waived the 8-month notice requirement, and approved the Water Supply and Purchase Agreement between the District and Nordic Aquafarms. On May 1, 2018, the District and its legal counsel, Andrew Hamilton, of Eaton Peabody, responded to the MPUC thanking them for their rigorous, fair and expedited review. On May 3, 2018, the MPUC requested the Town of Northport's letter to formally waive the right of first refusal by May 11, 2018. On May 7, 2018, the District received a letter from the Town of Northport stating the next meeting of the Selectboard is May 14, 2018, and would not do an attested letter to waive the right of first refusal until that time. The District's counsel then requested from the MPUC to extend the deadline filing to May 18, 2018. The MPUC granted the extension. Through many conversations, the Town of Northport's concern is about two things: 1) assurance from the City of Belfast that the required conservation and walking trail use be conveyed to Coastal Mountains Land Trust. The City of Belfast's attorney, William Kelly is presenting a Resolution Letter to the Belfast City Council tomorrow night for this purpose, and 2) to receive assistance with legal costs. Keith stated as a neighborly gesture he offered the authorized limit to assist the Town of

Northport with their legal expenses. Keith commented that this gesture would ensure meeting the District's requested deadline of May 30th with the MPUC.

Keith updated the Board that instead of hiring from a staffing agency, Cindy Clements expressed that she would like to work a part-time schedule of 16 hours per week. Keith and Tammy agreed that it makes perfect sense to have Cindy with her experience to meet the needs of the District, especially with the upcoming move. We are happy to have her back with us. Also, Dick Clements has returned for the summer to do the mowing and yard maintenance. We all appreciate the great job that he does.

The revisions to the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the dams were approved by Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) for two years. These revisions were discussed at the roundtable exercise held on September 11, 2017, with the Dam Safety Administrator, Tara Ayotte, of MEMA and others in attendance from First Responders, Emergency Agencies, and local government officials. Wright-Pierce developed the original EAP in May 2005. Tara Ayotte of MEMA provided a template of what is necessary in an EAP, then Keith and Tammy worked together to integrate the template into the original May 2005 EAP. A few enhancements include GPS coordinates, pictures of the dams, forms, and additional necessary information, along with a wholly revised flowchart. Part of the EAP is quarterly inspections of the dams and an annual survey. Everything about the Upper and Lower dams is in this plan. The EAP is ready for distribution to those listed in the plan: First Responders, Emergency Agencies, and local government officials.

Keith asked the Board to approve a change in the payment term for the on-call duty phone allowance from monthly to biannually. The allowance for each on-call duty employee is \$29 per month. The change saves 50 checks per year as well as money and processing time.

VOTED: On a motion made by Henry Chalmers, seconded by Eileen Dubinett and unanimously approved, to pay the on-call duty employee phone allowance biannually, in advance, starting July 1, 2018, versus every month to save money and processing time.

The mobile home on the District's property at 16 Back Searsport Road was torn down and removed by DM & J Waste as contracted for \$3,500. Keith said they did an excellent job of cleaning up and grading the land. Keith is working with Daniel Peaslee about a possible land swap. After receiving two quotes, one from Daniel Small Land Surveying for \$1,700 and the other from Gilman Professional Land Surveyor for \$2,195, Keith hired Daniel Small. Mr. Small will survey the lines on the Kenney Lot and find the two rear pins on the Peaslee lot, and then the property lines will be determined to make a trade. Two pins out the six provide a starting point. Keith called Patrick Scribner of Doak's Machine Shop to install the doors on the Back Searsport Road tank when drained. The septic system on the property will be filled with sand if it interferes. We will know where we can install our pipe when the survey pins are in place.

T-Mobile approached the District a couple of weeks ago about possibly installing two antennas on our Crocker Road Tank to expand their service area. Keith asked other District Superintendents about the income a cell phone antenna could add which could be up to \$2,000 a month.

The Searsport/Belfast Interconnect new pump and valves are ready to be installed in preparation for the 2019 Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) project. MDOT is putting a new box culvert under the water main on Route One at the Goose River near Central Maine Power (CMP). The project plans are quite extensive to install this large culvert. This project will cost the District to upgrade the water main in that area. We will have 80 feet of 10" water main exposed during the project. It is likely we will need water

from Searsport to supply water from Highview Terrace to the Goose River Bridge. Both sides of the Goose River will be isolated at least a couple of months until the MDOT's project comes to completion. This fall, we plan to add an isolation valve on the CMP side.

This past month the crew has been fixing many leaks.

- On April 12th, they repaired a leak on the 3/4" service line at 41 Smart Road due to separating from our 14" water main.
- On Saturday, April 26th, our customer at 1 Grove Street called stating they did not have enough water to make a cup of coffee, so Frank and Harold set up a temporary water line to get them through the weekend. Keith commended Frank and Harold for setting up the temp line so quickly and efficiently. On May 1st, they renewed this old 1" galvanized service.
- On May 8th, another 1" service leak on Swan Lake Avenue at Chickadee Lane. Keith stated he has been trying to pinpoint the leak location for quite some time and this was it. We lost 400,000 gallons of water.
- On May 10th, we renewed a 3/4" galvanized service that was leaking at 65 Court Street.

Other tasks the crew has been doing this past month:

- The hydrant that was hit and not reported on Starrett Drive was replaced at the District's expense of \$3,462; the hydrant itself cost \$2,140.
- The City's paving project is coming up this month, so the crew has been locating our water lines before they start milling the pavement. The area of the milling and paving is from Church Street to Congress Street and from Grove Street to Main Street.

The upcoming scheduled work for the crew is as follows:

- Install a new 1" water service for 126 Congress Street from Salmond Street.
- Install a new 1" water service at 161 High Street across from City Hall. Phoenix Row Investments owns 159 - 161 High Street which is only one building and one existing water service. Since the owner is selling one side of the building, the additional water service is necessary. This service installation will need to be done at night when traffic is light.
- Before the City paves, the crew needs to raise 50-60 gate boxes.
- Oversee the 6" water service installation of the new Unified Court System on Church Street. The contractor, Farley & Son is using approved materials purchased from EJ Prescott.

VOTED: On a motion made by Henry Chalmers, seconded by Bruce Osgood and unanimously approved, to adjourn the meeting at 2:16 p.m.



Eileen Dubinett, Secretary