

Trustees of the Belfast Water District met at 1:00 p.m. at the Little River Station office. The following were in attendance: Eileen Dubinett, Henry Chalmers, Archie Gaul, Stephen Hall and Superintendent Keith Pooler. Absent from the meeting was Alton Kenney.

The Chairman, Archie Gaul, called the meeting to order.

VOTED: On motion by Henry Chalmers, seconded by Eileen Dubinett and unanimously approved to accept the Minutes of the December 1, 2013 board meeting.

The Board proceeded to authorize commitment to the Treasurer, Alton Kenney, the Certificate of Commitment of Water District User Rates.

VOTED: On motion by Stephen Hall, seconded by Henry Chalmers and unanimously approved; to commit to the Treasurer the water rates for the period beginning 12/1/2013 and ending 12/31/2013.

Archie discussed the questionnaire related to fraud risk sent to the trustees by the district's auditor as part of their standard auditing procedures. Archie indicated that he doesn't like that it is sent to each individual trustee and that if there is anybody on the board that is aware of fraud the rest of the board should know about it, not just a couple of the trustees. Personally, Archie feels the questionnaire should be answered collectively as a board and if anyone knows of any problems the rest of the board should know. Archie agreed that he feels it is good to have the survey and feels there are no issues or concerns to report.

Keith reviewed the Purchase and Sales Agreement for the 51 acres of land in Swanville, located in the wellhead projection area, to be purchased from E. D Bessey in the amount of \$38,250.00. The agreement has been reviewed by the District's attorney, Lee Woodward and is ready for the Chairman, Archie Gaul to sign.

Reviewed the letter of agreement with Dirigo Engineering for engineering services related to the Cross and Spring Streets water main upgrade project scheduled for the Spring of 2014. Dirigo Engineering will design the water project to be included with the City of Belfast project and to be put out as a combined project to hopefully get a better bid price. Because the funding requirements do not require a full time engineer on site, therefore the engineering proposal of \$29,000.00 will include limited inspections by Dirigo at a cost of \$5,000.00 Keith indicated that we will be doing most of the daily monitoring during the construction.

VOTED: On motion by Stephen Hall, seconded by Henry Chalmers and unanimously approved; to authorize the Chairman, Archie Gaul, to sign the Letter of Agreement in the amount of \$29,000.00 with

Dirigo Engineering for the design and engineering of the water main upgrade project on Cross and Spring Streets.

Keith informed the Board that he was recently approached by Greg Curtis who owns property that borders the Durham Lot owned by the District. Mr. Curtis asked if the District would be interested in selling a portion of the Durham Lot for the purpose of building a house. Mr. Curtis indicated that he is not interested in purchasing the entire 101 acres of the Durham Lot. Keith indicated the District would need to keep the right-of-way especially to be used for a lumber yard when the trees are harvested in the future. However, it will be many years before trees can be harvested there. Also, before the District sells the lot Keith indicated that he will investigate to see if the Durham Lot has appreciable gravel on the land. If the property is to be sold, the Maine Public Utilities Commission must approve the sale of the land and then the City of Belfast must have the right of first refusal to purchase the land before it can be sold to anyone else. The Board felt they would be more interested in selling all 101 acres and suggested that Keith ask Mr. Curtis to seriously consider buying the entire Durham Lot.

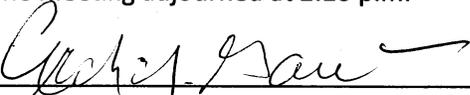
Keith reported to the Board that the fire hydrant located on Main Street, between Quirk Auto and Rite Aid, needed to be replaced because it slid out from the main due to frost or it could have been hit. The hydrant was shut down at the gate valve on a Monday and was scheduled to be replaced on Thursday. On Wednesday morning the crew distributed water service shut down notices in the area informing people the shutdown would occur at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday to replace the fire hydrant. Only six customers were affected, Quirk Auto being one of them. Keith said that on Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. the city manager called him upset that the District was going to shutdown water on Main Street and had not notified any of the customers according to the owner of Quirk Auto. Later it was discovered that Quirk Auto did not inform the owner who is located in Bangor until 2:30 in the afternoon about the planned shutdown. Keith explained that because he had left early Wednesday due to illness, he was unaware of what went on and was unable to reach the foreman. Keith said he told the manager that the crew will not replace the hydrant on Thursday and schedule it for another day. Keith indicated that when he returned to the office on Thursday, he found that the crew had done everything they were supposed to do and provided the required 24 hour notice to the customers. The crew replaced the fire hydrant after midnight on Friday. By having to do the work outside of regular working hours, it cost the rate payer's an extra \$900.00 as opposed to doing the work during the day. Keith indicated that he would like to write a letter to the owner of Quirk Auto to see if he would be so moved to help out the rest of the rate payers with \$900.00 extra charge. Keith informed the Board that when the city manager found out the whole story he was very apologetic and would not intervene in the future. Archie suggested that Keith should ask the city manager to write the letter to the owner of Quirk Auto about the extra cost incurred by the District.

Keith reported that on Saturday, January 18th a car went off Smart Road into Goose River near the Smart Road Well. The spillage of vehicle liquids was very minimal and was contained. Since this has occurred

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frequently in this area, Keith said he will contact the drinking water program to see if there is funding available for guard rails to protect the area and approach the city to see if the District buys the guard rails, the city would install them.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.



Archie J. Gaul, Chairman

