

WILTON WATER WORKS MINUTES

November 30, 2009

WILTON WATER COMMISSIONERS – Charlie McGettigan and Jim Tuttle - assembled at 7:00 PM for purpose of review and approval of accounts payable.

Business Meeting was called to order at 7:20 by Chairman Charlie McGettigan. Also present were Carl Somero (Water Superintendent), Joanna K. Eckstrom (Secretary), Janet Langdell – property owner and Patrick Kenney, representative of Fort Mountain Company. Commissioner Stan Schultz was absent.

Agenda:

1. October 28 minutes – Mr. Tuttle asked that ‘New Business Item 2’ be stricken as he did not recall this discussion or vote being taken. As there was no objection from Mr. McGettigan, the minutes of October 28 were approved with all reference to ‘New Business item 2’ stricken.
2. See above.

Agenda amended to hear Item 5 – tree removal at Sand Hill Rd. reservoir. Janet Langdell, an abutter, presented a letter granting tentative approval to use her family’s land as an access point for the project. Wil Sullivan also forwarded a letter granting his family’s tentative permission to access the reservoir via his family’s property. Mr. McGettigan signed Sullivan’s letter acknowledging its receipt and WWW agreement to leave property in good condition throughout the project. (Signed copy hand delivered to Wil on December 1st.)

WWW retained Patrick Kenney, a licensed forester with the Fort Mountain Company, to prepare an Initial Timber Appraisal for the project. WWW intent is to clean up the site, remove fallen trees, protect the reservoir/water supply, and perhaps generate a modest income from timber sale. (Kenney’s pricing is based on ‘timber tax rates’. Mr. Tuttle is confirming with Town Office who, if anyone, is responsible for the ‘timber tax’.

Mr. Kenney spent a half day walking reservoir and adjacent property bounds, paying particular attention to the south side of the reservoir. He notes that some work has been done but the need to address problems at the site is more apparent now, especially from damage incurred in the December 2008 ice storm. No actual measurements were made however the site is 49+/- acres, of which approx 19 acres is forest; remaining 30 acres is reservoir. Soils are mostly sandy. Work can be done in dead of winter or in summer. He identified some landing sites for the skidder and other equipment that would be used. Kenney also identified a very large pine tree that is a hazard that he is reluctant to touch.

Ms. Langdell asked how far from the water’s edge would cutting be done? Per ‘Good Forestry in the Granite State’ report, a Great Pond (10+ acres) allows a 150 ft ‘management zone’ from water’s edge, leaving 50% basal area untouched. As this reservoir is a public water supply, these restrictions may not apply. (A state confirmation of requirements is pending.)

Mr. Tuttle suggested that a public hearing on the project is a good idea. Mr. Kenney will attend the December 14th meeting of the Wilton Conservation Commission.

The Initial Timber Appraisal is available for review at the WWW. Fort Mountain Company will develop a formal proposal that most appropriately meets objectives of all concerned parties – WWW, Conservation Commission, Town, abutters, etc.

The normal agenda resumed:

3. Update of backflow devices – backflow device customers who received a letter on Oct. 13 have all replied. Per Paul Whittemore, Roedel property is still an issue; FRES work is in the school budget; Wilton Falls building – they're on top of it.
4. Sam Proctor - Jarvis House property – Proctor sent letter with complaint about water meter reading at this property. (This meter reading ultimately affects his sewer tax payable to Milford). WWW believes meter readings are correct but would replace meter (at Proctor's expense); Proctor has declined this solution, and paid his water bill. Issue is Proctor's and Town of Milford to resolve.
5. (Previously addressed)
6. Water Bill – Accounts receivable and Shut off notices. A list of outstanding bills through November 30 was reviewed. Tuttle and McGettigan both confirmed that the \$20 late fee will be charged and collected on all delinquent accounts. Service shut-offs will begin on all accounts that are still delinquent on December 10th. This information will be relayed to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office.
7. New Business / Old Business:

Mike Guay (recycling center) owns a team of draft horses. He's offered to remove trees on Putnam Hill Road with the horses – to exercise the animals and to train a family member in this process. WWW will take this under advisement.

Patterson Signs will be retained to make a 20 x 30" aluminum sign for the pump station at \$78.

Ryman's estimate for hydrant shoveling will be taken under advisement.

There was no response to the WWW request to Pennichuck to adjust their final invoice.

Mr. Tuttle asked that commissioners take another look at what BMSI can do for the WWW. The BMSI Utility Management software is loaded on the Town Clerk / Tax Collector computers but is not being used to its full potential.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna K Eckstrom, Wilton Water Works Secretary
December 2, 2009

E-Mailed for Website Posting: December 2, 2009