



**TOWN OF CHARLTON**  
Minutes of February 25, 2019  
Water/Sewer Commission

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Received by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Present: Jennifer Vaughan, Paul Gagner, Rob Lemansky, Russ Jennings, Peter Boria, Sue Guerin  
Absent - Alex Mackenzie

**I. Call to Order**

**Mr. Gagner called the meeting to order at 6:34pm**

**II. Commissioner's Public Forum**

**Present - Ed Kochling – Hanson Rd Charlton**

Mr. Kochling came before the commission to discuss a few items regarding the new Exxon Mobile water line construction and the proposed subdivision for Valley Green Grow on Old Worcester Rd.

After reviewing the Exxon Mobile plans he notice a hydrant is to be located in the middle of the proposed subdivision roadway and suggest it be moved 30-40 feet out of the way. He also noticed that this hydrant is coming off the water service, just off the edge of the pavement and suggests that it be set back 6-8 feet so that it is not hit by a plow.

He also stated that the plans for VGG lists L Turner Dr. as a driveway, not a public road and is questioning why a 4" water main would need to be installed there. He is looking to clarify the designation of the road. He questioned if the entire road was going to be re-paved after the waterline construction, and suggested holding off should the project pass and is completed. Also should VGG require sewer service, you wouldn't want to cut into the road after it is paved.

Mr. Boria recommended that since this is not an agenda item, he will take under advisement; he will clarify items and put on the next meeting's agenda.

Mr. Lemansky stated that the town clerk's office would know if that was a public road and we could verify with her.

**III. Consent Agenda/Warrant/Abatements Approvals as Needed**

**Mr. Jennings motioned to approve the minutes from February 11, 2019 as printed. Seconded by Ms. Vaughan. Motion passes unanimously.**

**Mr. Jennings motioned to approve the warrants as printed in the amount of \$54,274.01 Seconded by Mr. Lemansky. Motion passes unanimously.**

**IV. Scheduled Appointments**

**6:40pm John Oatley of Veolia**

Mr. Oatley reviewed the January MOR as Mr. Donahue was called out to the pump station on N. Sturbridge Rd. The monthly safety training focused on hazard communication and was provided by J.J. Keller training on demand. There weren't any NPDES exceedances during the month. Operations and maintenance – The weekly and monthly maintenance check list was completed. All preventative maintenance work orders were completed. Weekly generator full load exercise completed with no issues. MTA's were sampled January 1<sup>st</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. On 1/31/19 there was a high level alarm on the N. Main St. pump station. There were 4 grinder pump calls and 10 dig safes.

At last month's meeting the commission approved the cost of replacing the flow meters at the 6W pump station. The cost approved was \$2345.80 without installation. When the order was placed we were told that the meter was discontinued. The new model would have an increase in cost of \$159.80. Mr. Oatley is looking for approval for the new equipment cost of \$2,505.60. **Mr. Lemansky motioned to accept the additional cost totaling \$2,505.60. Seconded by Mr. Jennings. Motion passes unanimously.**

On February 13<sup>th</sup> during the weekly generator full load exercise the facility experienced a brief power loss. This incident caused several pieces of equipment to go into fault with the need to be reset. The VFD's that control the scum pumps could not be reset and was determined by an electrician that 2 of the 3 VFD's had failed. These VFD's are 25+ years old, with a normal life expectancy of 10 years. Attached are 2 quotes, one for the VFD's and one for the installation. The total cost for the 2 with Veolia's discount would be \$3,937. **Mr. Lemansky motions to pay replace the 2 VFD's including the cost of install of \$3,937.00 Seconded by Mr. Jennings. Motion passes unanimously.**

Mr. Oatley updated the commission on the staffing shortage since Stephen St. John left Veolia. They have interviewed a candidate who has accepted the position and is going through the onboarding process. He has hopes to have him in the plant in approx. 2 weeks. Currently there has been staff from other plants helping out.

Recently a weir was installed (by the bar rack area) and tested down by the Headworks building to prevent debris from clogging and to prevent flooding.

RBC's 1 and 2 are on line and functioning (not covered) and currently building biomass on them. They were able to resurrect the 2 failed RBC's a reasonable cost. Currently covers are being researched; they are looking to alternative options to save capital for other projects.

With the headworks study that was completed they are looking to develop a system to add alkalinity. The options discussed were a silo, a dry feed system or a liquid system. Mr. Oatley is hoping to have the recommendations and pricing for the next meeting.

Mr. Donahue who could not be here tonight he is at N. Sturbridge Rd. Pump station. The pipe which had a high run time looks like it had separated. Mr. Oatley will have someone come out to take a look and get it repaired. This was discovered during routine pump inspections.

**66 Glen Echo Shore Rd** - Mrs. Heroux contacted the office today and asked to be rescheduled until the next meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup> due to illness.

#### **7:15 BETA Engineering - Peter Newton and Bob Mackie present**

Mr. Boria had asked for the two of them to attend the meeting after looking at the two pieces of property. The additional 8 acres gives access to the larger lot. Mr. Newton stated that there is a better way to spend the money, but is still able to provide data. Well drilling is very expensive, there are other methods such as evaluating geology. With a geo probe – a 1" diameter would be able to core down 140' to retrieve material. In 8 days' worth of geo probe work they could possibly get up to 12 borings, and be able to sample both parcels. Without pumping you could see if the material is consistent, with what was observed in well 2 and would be able to decide to move forward or put information to the side.

Mr. Boria stated that amendment 5 (part of the agenda packet) would give us 8 days of geo probe in the amount of \$58,900, leaving us money to possibly do some bedrock exploration in other parts of town. If approved we would meet with the DEP and the new scope of work. Mr. Boria stated that he has an agreement for the new parcel of land, a few changes will need to be made, it is similar to the Phillips property, and is hoping to have for the next meeting.

Mr. Lemansky asked Mr. Newton if he felt this was a good investment. Mr. Newton stated he feels well site has potential. If it became a viable source we would have access to Gale Rd, opposed to drilling under the lake, which sounds easy but requires a lot of testing.

**Mr. Jennings motioned to accept Amendment # 5 as printed in the amount of \$58,900.** Mr. Lemansky added providing we obtain authority for the town meeting to purchase the property - but later withdrew.

**Seconded by Ms. Vaughan. Motion passes unanimously**

Mr. Boria will contact the DEP to set up an appointment to present the amendment to them. Mr. Newton will start the process of scheduling the geo probe.

#### **V. New Business**

##### **44 Old Worcester Rd – Valley Green Grow**

##### **Mr. Ed Kochling – Hanson Rd present.**

Valley Green Grow is proposing a facility on 44 Old Worcester Rd. The W/S department has received correspondence regarding their project and with the next Planning Board hearing being March 6<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Boria asked that we review it here and put any comments together as a board to be presented at that meeting.

Mr. Boria stated that the first piece of correspondence we received (part of the agenda packet) was from Mr. Kochling. In it he asked about:

The parcel (44 Old Worcester Rd) was assessed a 2 EDU betterment in the amount of \$16,400 and in the W/S minutes of 12/6/04 it reflects an abatement was given.

He also raises concern of 61A being used as a property tax reduction and also having land use restrictions.

Mr. Kochling asked how does a piece of property receive an abatement for their betterment and the new proposed project (on the same parcel) that will need to connect, not have to pay a betterment. He asked the planning board this question and was referred to the W/S commission.

Mr. Boria explained that betterment was not paid, but the new connection would require a privilege fee assessed on what they are asking for usage, and have yet to come before the commission. Mr. Kochling stated that in order for them to get approval from the Planning Board and the Board of Health they need information regarding sewer access.

Mr. Lemansky explained the past abatement on the property. The owner was too far away and did not connect because it would have been too costly and the W/S commission approved the abatement. Now it would become a clean slate for the possible new subdivision. Mr. Lemansky recommends we connect with the planning board and write a letter stating that because of their frontage that sewer be connected to both lots. This subdivision hasn't been approved and the W/S department has not seen anything yet. Mr. Jennings asked Mr. Kochling and he confirmed it shows the connection on their plans, therefore they will be asking to connect. Mr. Boria recommends that the easiest thing to do for correspondence with the Planning Board is to let them know we have not approved any water or sewer connections to our infrastructure, existing or planned at this time. Mr. Lemansky added, nor has there been a request. Mr. Kochling wanted to bring this to our attention and to make sure everyone is on the same page.

**Mr. Boria will draft a letter to the planning board referencing that the W/S Dept has not received any request for water or sewer connections to the proposed subdivision plan.**

Mr. Gerard Russell came in front of the board to further discuss the Exxon Mobil water line and L Turner Rd. He had with him information from 1937 from the Town Clerks office (which he will share with Mr. Boria) which shows it as a public road.

In regards to the email (copy was part of the agenda packet) from Ms. Patsy Rydlak (Planning Board) and the uncertainty of L. Turner being a driveway or a public Rd. Mr. Boria will let Exxon Mobil know that the W/S commission is unsure of what we will do regarding the 4" line on L Turner Rd.

#### **Superintendent Disclosure**

Presented to the commission was a copy of a disclosure submitted by Mr. Boria. Green Gold Group (46 Worcester Rd) has approached Mr. Boria's father, Paul, in regards to the possibility of leasing property on Rte. 20 for offsite parking should they go recreational.

#### **46 Worcester Rd - Green Gold Group – Municipal water connection**

On March 18, 2018 it was motioned and approved not to require Green Gold Group to connect to water seeing the renovations would not change the footprint of the building. The DEP has been in contact with them and is mandating them to connect to water seeing they will be servicing so many people per day. Mr. Boria believes they will let them open prior to connecting. This information was for informational purposes and wanted to make the commission aware. **Mr. Lemansky requested that the W/S commission will need to discuss the privilege fee they will have to pay when they connect at the next meeting.**

#### **VI. Old Business FY 20 Budget**

As requested at the last meeting, Mr. Boria reviewed the duties of the W/S Superintendent and the W/S Administrator as well as a breakdown of costs associated with the position totaling \$81,701 for the year. After speaking with an outside engineering service, calculating 30 hours a week for 36 weeks (March 15-Nov 15) at \$75.00 per hour, would bring it to a total \$81,000. The Administrator position assists the department in many other facets other than onsite inspections. With the randomness of his sight visits and

documenting things through his camera, keeps the different crews on their toes. He feels that what it is costing us is well worth it.

**Exxon Mobile Settlement Money.**

Attached was a summary of the settlement from the Finance Director. Mr. Lemansky had asked for a breakdown of how the 2.6 million that was transferred to the General Fund was spent. Since the

General Fund is not under the direction of the W/S commission, Mr. Boria was told that in order to receive that information he would need to make a Public Records Request. With a motion from the commission Mr. Boria will make the request. **Mr. Jennings motioned to request the records of the money was broken down and spent. Seconded by Ms. Vaughan. Motion passes unanimously.**

**Waterline Construction Project Updates.**

- **Berry Corner Rd** - there hasn't been any work taking place with the Berry Corner Rd waterline project yet, and there has been not discussion of when work will start back up again.
- **School Loop** - Albanese Brothers is planning to start construction the week of March 11 with one crew. They plan to have one more crew trained that week and have them start the following week.
- **Rte. 169 Pump station** - the majority of the site work for the pump station has been completed for some time. The pre-fab building is also complete. We are now waiting on the pump skid to be completed. Unfortunately there is a wait for the control screen that is needed to operate the pumps. This delay will put the anticipated delivery of the pump station to be around June or July.

**VII. Other Business (unknown at time of posting)**

The elections will be held on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and Nomination papers are available and are due in by March 14<sup>th</sup>. The W/S commission has 2 seats available.

**VIII. Next Meeting - March 11, 2019**

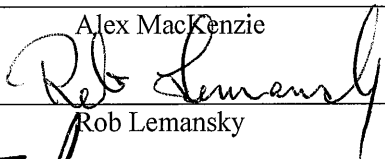
Mr. Jennings made the motion to adjourn at 8:50pm. Seconded by Mr. Lemansky. Motion passes unanimously.

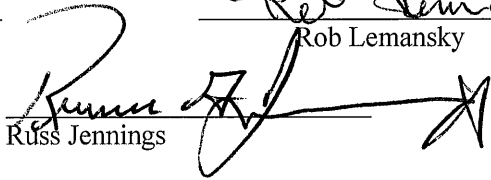
Submitted by:  
Sue Guerin  
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Gagner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jenn H. Vaughan

Alex MacKenzie  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rob Lemansky

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Russ Jennings

Minutes of the meeting dated 1/28/19 were approved and signed on \_\_\_\_\_.