



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Bethel Municipal Center, 1 School Street
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203)794-8501

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday September 8, 2008
4:00 p.m.
Bethel Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

RECEIVED

SEP 11 2008

TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

Present: First Selectman Burke, Selectman Szatkowski, Commissioner Gribbin, Commissioner Michaels also in attendance Len Assard, Heitkamp Consultant; Andrew Morosky, Town Engineer; William Hagan, Town Attorney; Kelly Curtis, Utilities Supervisor.

Call to Order: First Selectman Burke called to the regular meeting to order at 4:10pm

Absent: Selectman Cleary

Correspondence: None

Public Input: Geraldine Mills of 4 Colonial Drive spoke regarding the Stony Hill Sewer Project. Mrs. Mills indicated six to eight residents contacted her regarding the financial burden of the sewer assessments. Mrs. Mills asked First Selectman Burke if the town was trying to obtain grants to offset the costs to the residents of the town. Mr. Burke stated the Town is doing everything it can to keep costs down, including searching for grant money.

Minutes:

Meeting Minutes from the August 4, 2008 Regular Meeting: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, seconded by commissioner Gribbin, to approve the minutes as presented. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Carries.

Old Business:

Proposed Sewer Regulation: Andrew Morosky and Attorney Sienkiewicz spoke last week regarding the schedule for the sewer regulations and the draft will be submitted to the Public Utilities Commission in October. First Selectman Burke indicated he will contact Mr. Sienkiewicz shortly to discuss importance of the updates.

Interlocal Agreement: Andrew Morosky spoke with Danbury's attorney who indicated Danbury is pleased that the Agreement will be signed soon, Board of Selectmen and Common Council need to approve the Interlocal Agreement before the Mayor and First Selectman can execute the Agreement.

24 Putnam Park Road: Andrew Morosky reported that, although no further progress has been made on this parcel, another parcel between Midway Drive and Putnam Park Road appears to be better positioned to help the Town in several ways, especially in terms of shifting stormwater away from the Plumtrees Road area, which was flooded by the remnants of a tropical storm that dropped eight inches of rain on Bethel on Saturday. This area and areas upstream of Plumtrees Road are often affected severely whenever there is a significant rain event in Bethel.

Water Main Extension- Grassy Plain Street: Len Assard of Heitkamp indicated he has received a draft of a letter from the engineering company representing a local industrialist, the subject of which is a second request to the homeowners on Grassy Plain Street to connect to the public water supply. The company is now willing to pay the full cost of connection to the water main as well as a lump sum equal to ten (10) years of water service. It will be the responsibility of the homeowners to make ongoing utility payment to the town. If the homeowners are in agreement, the Town of Bethel would then negotiate an agreement with the industrialist and be responsible for the half of the cost for the water main extension on Grassy Plain Street. It is anticipated that the cost to the Town will not exceed \$100,000. Benefits for the Town include elimination of dead-end water main which improves water quality and creation of a loop which increases capacity. The benefit to the industrialist is the elimination of the chance that any groundwater contamination will ever show up in the wells of any of the homes in question.

First Selectman Burke, made a motion which was seconded by Selectman Paul Szatkowski to authorize the First Selectman, Chairman of the Public Utility Commission, to send a letter of invitation to the homeowners on Grassy Plain Street for the installation of water service, with language in the letter to be reviewed and approved by Town Attorney. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Carries.

Financial Report: Reports were not available for the meeting.

Engineering/Utility Consultant Reports:

Grants: Water Storage Tank: Andrew Morosky indicated that the consultant for the project, Wright-Pierce, received data from Insurance Services Office (ISO) which may affect the ultimate size of the storage tank. According to the preliminary calculations, 630,000 gallons may be needed for fire flow volume alone and, coupled with other storage needs, could mean the tank will be larger than 1.0 million gallons. Lenny Assard discussed the role of ISO in setting insurance rates in towns. ISO issues their ratings based on factors such as 1) areas with hydrants and public water; 2) available fire flow; 3) presence of a paid vs. a volunteer fire department; etc. Andrew Morosky stated the Town of Bethel's rating *may* improve if a larger tank is selected, but that needs to be clarified, perhaps with a conversation with a representative from ISO.

Stony Hill Sewer Project:

Peter Sammis, URS broke down the various stages of the sewer project with updates and finalization to Contract 2 as well as Contracts 3 and 4.

Contract 2: Pump Station on Payne Road is nearing completion; the wet well and mechanical vault are in place as well as the slab for the control building. Equipment has been ordered by Ludlow Construction. Mr. Sammis indicated residents can expect to hook up in November of 2008.

Contract 3: Invitation to Bid for Contract 3 will be advertised Wednesday, September 10, 2008. Bids will be due on October 6, 2008. Pump Station to be located on property on Walnut Hill Road across from Farmview Drive. Approval from Inland Wetlands and Planning & Zoning Commissions need to be obtained prior to construction. A soils scientist is scheduled to re-flag the area, due to a change in the location of the pump station.

Contract 4: Part of Contract 4 is located near the Town Line with Brookfield. Location of the Pumping Station for Contract 4 may be on private property in Brookfield. Andrew Morosky is in communication with the Town Engineer in Brookfield about this issue. Mr. Sammis indicated Contract 4 is about 80-85% designed already.

Easements for Contract 2 and 3: Total of 19 easements are required. We have agreements for ten and are looking to obtain nine more.

Supervisor Report:

Kelly Curtis reported the Utilities Department on Nashville Road is looking at swapping customers from the 4-inch water main to the 12-inch water main. This coming Saturday they will shut off all the 4" users to determine number of users which will need to be changed, they found 12 dead ends.

They recently had the whole system tested for leakage, cost was \$4,000.00 and the report showed a tight running system. This leak survey is paid through the Chestnut Street Culvert project.

Water Department: Regarding hydrants moved one on Durant Ave. next to the bus company.

Sewer Department: New pump is required on Paul Street.

Commission Gribbin asked Mr. Curtis about the aesthetics of the water booster station on Governors Lane/Spring Hill and if it is in the budget to plant some shrubs around the station. Mr. Curtis as well as Lenny Assard indicated due to the Homeland Security Issues it's not possible. Regulation requires clear view due to potential attack.

School Street flooding this past weekend due to rain storm. Saturday the department went out and snaked the line, water appeared to be flowing properly, pumps were checked as well as manholes. Pembroke Pumping was called on Sunday after the storm hit on Saturday and found sewage backed up on School Street due to a debris cap falling into a manhole which caused the problem. The Utilities Department will change out that cap. Total cost of incident will be around \$7,200.

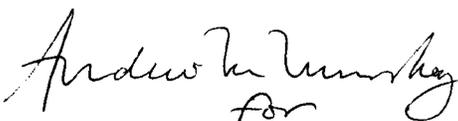
New Business:

153 Grassy Plain Street – Re-application of three commercial condominium units in a new building, no hand-outs. First Selectman Burke tabled this item and asked to carry it as new business at the next meeting. Andrew Morosky will get further information from Tighe & Bond regarding the new sewer allocation to this and other condominium associations.

Adjourn:

As there was no further business on today's agenda, Commissioner Michaels made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Gribbin, to adjourn the meeting at 6:15pm. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Andrew Morosky in cursive script, with the word "for" written below it.

Tracy Rogalski
Recording Secretary