

**Minutes
Of
The Foxboro Water and Sewer Commissioners
January 13, 2011**

Members in Attendance: Chairman P. Henderson, Vice Chairman M. Stanton, Clerk W. Euerle, Superintendent L. Potter

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes of October 26, 2010, November 9, 2010, November 16, 2010 and November 23, 2010 were approved 3-0.

The Town Manager is not available to come to the meeting tonight.

There has been no response from the landowner on Wall Street about the easement yet.

L. Potter would like to award the contract on cold water meters to Ocean State Meters. They were the low bidders at \$14,900. This is for 100 meters and ERTs. A motion to award the bid to Ocean State Meters was approved 3-0.

The Board discussed the DPW proposal. W. Euerle is willing to give it a try, but has two concerns. One is there will be insufficient senior personnel in the department for the handling of state reports and the other is the issue of seniority of the water department employees in a merged DPW. M. Stanton agrees with these concerns and feels that these details need to be worked out.

P. Henderson doesn't see the cost savings that were proposed by the Town Manager, there may be efficiency savings with the consolidation. He feels that the biggest obstacle to filling the Superintendent position is the requirement of a P.E. and the bad economy; people aren't willing to take a leap into a new position at the current pay scale. He also has concerns with losing office staff positions. P. Henderson stated that he would be willing to vote for the concept but not the Town Managers proposal. Other towns with DPW's have Operations Managers of the Water and Sewer departments.

L. Potter stated that he met with the Highway Superintendent, the Finance Director and the Town Manager. Mr. Paicos explained his vision structure as being the DPW Director, the Town Engineer with four groups under them, Water, Highway, Tree and Park and Maintenance. The office workers would be combined; there would be a Water Supervisor and Working Supervisor and the crew. The Water Superintendent's position would be eliminated with some of the work to the Assistant, some to the Director and some to the Engineer. He does not have a separate Sewer Manager at this time. The DPW Director would report to the Board. The bigger state reports would be done by the director with information gathered from the office staff and Art Reynolds. Budgets, payroll, billing, long term planning, union negotiations and labor would also be handled by the Director. The engineer would handle permits, applications, inquiries, work with consultants, and be the liaison to other boards. The day to day operations and schedules would be done by Mr. Reynolds who would report to the Director and Engineer.

As far as regulatory compliance, Mr. Reynolds doesn't have the licenses, the state could be asked for a waiver while he gets it, L. Potter could be hired on a contract basis or the DPW Director may have the licenses.

In the interim, Town Meeting needs to approve a budget and these jobs need to go before the Wage and Personnel Board before any advertizing or filling of jobs can happen. This may take up to a year to implement. The staff may need to be moved to modular trailers at the highway department. There would be no layoffs, but perhaps moves to other departments. L. Potter stated that after April 1, 2011, his availability will be limited.

The Board is not sure they can agree to eliminating the Superintendent position. Some of the concept is agreeable, but details need to be worked out with the Town Manager.

A motion that the Board of Water and Sewer is in support of a Department of Public Works concept and wishes to explore the necessary transition issues was approved 3-0.

The Board would like to meet with the Town Manager.

There is a meeting with advisory on February 9th at 7:30 p.m.

The Oak Street proposal is on the January 24th Conservation agenda at 7:05 p.m. and on the January 27th Planning Board agenda at 8:00 p.m.

There is an IMA meeting on January 27th at 6:00.

The CIP meeting on March 5th needs a presenter as L. Potter will be out of town that weekend. M. Stanton agreed to do it.

L. Potter will retire on April 1, 2011.

W. Euerle will be out of town from February 1st to February 13th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Gray

These minutes of January 13, 2011 were approved as amended on April 5, 2011.


William Euerle, Clerk