

**CONWAY VILLAGE FIRE DISTRICT
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
Thursday August 16, 2018
Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m.

Commissioners present: Steve Bamsey, Michael Digregorio, Tom Buco
Others present: Superintendent Gregg Quint, Assistant Superintendent Steve Anderson, Chief Solomon, Amy Snow- Municipal Bookkeeper
Absent: None
Public: None

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Mr. Buco made a motion to approve items A and B, motion seconded by; Mr. Digregorio

Discussion: Treasure State of New Hampshire \$140,000- payment on a loan.
White Mountain Oil- Final payment on the boilers.
RWN- Stumps at the Fire Station.

Motion passed 3-0-0.

Mr. Buco made a motion to approve and sign the Superintendent's and Fire Chiefs time sheets for the week ending 8/12/18, seconded by Mr. Digregorio; Motion passed 3-0-0.

Mr. Buco made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of 8/10/18, seconded by Mr. Digregorio; Motion passed 2-0-1. Mr. Digregorio abstained.

SUPERINTENDANT'S BUSINESS

Mr. Quint presented a request for abatement to the board. Mrs. Snow gave a brief explanation of the request that there was a water tank that leaked. However, the customer did not present any proof of the leak.

Mr. Bamsey made a motion to abate 42 Towle Rd. for \$98.23, motion seconded by Mr. Digregorio; Discussion: Mr. Digregorio wanted to clarify that there was no collaborating evidence from anyone to verify the leak. Mrs. Snow responded, no. The motion did not pass 1-2-0.

A sewer manhole was replaced on East Main St. that had 18 inches of brick. Steve has been working on finishing up well 2.

Mr. Anderson explained one of the routine samples tested positive for a coliform hit. The required resampling from the same site and additional sites were tested and came back negative.

Jason entered the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

NORTH CONWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Gagnon came before the board to update them on adding a 3rd dewatering press and additional conveyors.

With the aid of a hand out discussion ensued around the proposed budget and projected cost. (See attached).

Check future meeting minutes for any amendments or changes to these minutes.

Mr. Gagnon asked commissioners to keep in mind when this project was originally proposed; it was a 3.55 million dollar project. It was intended to have all three dewatering presses both conveyors, basically, everything that is in this additional scope now. When the Engineers put together their opinion of the cost, they did not think they were going to be able to fit everything into the 3.55 million dollar budget. So they did an analysis, and they discovered they could afford the additional press and conveyor. This proposal restores the project to its original scope now that NCWP knows they have the money they didn't think they had during design.

NCWP has secured additional principal forgiveness from DES. DES has stated that they were going to be funding 20% principal forgiveness for septage related projects from 2018 on. Originally NCWP did not qualify because their project was a 2017 project. However, they have since been accepted after a letter was sent asking DES to reconsider NCWP's project. Discussion ensued around the principal forgiveness and what the cost of the project looks like with the 3rd press and additional conveyors. (See attached for project cost comparison).

NCWP will be borrowing \$3,500,218 at 1.9% with \$512,527 total principal forgiveness. CVFD annual estimated cost based on January's numbers would be \$ 74,315 minus principal forgiveness. Mrs. Snow asked when they are planning on closing on the loan, Mr. Gagnon responded in January 2019. The term of the loan was discussed.

The following benefits to having the 3rd screw press were discussed:

- Reduced cost of chemicals.
- NCWP will not need to hire any additional help.
- Being able to dewater the septage directly allows the septage to bypass the WWTF process altogether.
- The current scope of the septage receiving upgrades will address septage storage limitations.

Mr. Gagnon stated there is discussion around lowering the septage receiving rates to promote disposal of septage at the WWTF.

Mr. Bamsey questioned the language in the contract regarding capital improvement projects and asked Mr. Gagnon, is the third screw press necessary to operate the NCWP plant. Mr. Gagnon responded not today, but in the near future yes, that's why it was part of the original design. He went on to explain he feels it is important to do it now because they have the guaranteed 12.5% of principal forgiveness on the non- septage portion. The cost of the project will be considerably more in the future if they don't do it now with the guaranteed low rates.

Mr. Bamsey expressed his concerns with CVFD fixed tax base and taking on an additional \$74,315 a year. He questioned the language in the IMA if it requires CVFD be responsible for any capital improvements in excess.

Mrs. Snow clarified the question do you need that third screw press to process what CVFD sends to be processed or is it more for looking into the future for the septage receipt which would have nothing to do with CVFD septage that we send to NCWP. Mr. Gagnon responded that you could look at it that way and suggested maybe they can come up with something where CVFD's septage revenues are capped. Either way, NCWP will go forward with the screw press.

Mr. Digregorio asked when more accurate numbers will be available to review. Mrs. Snow asked how NCWP is planning on paying for this capital cost, will it be through tax revenue or user rates because the IMA with the school district comes into play if they contribute then that is less CVFD has to contribute. Mr. Gagnon responded he had not had a chance to dig into the IMA yet,

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but all long-term debt is paid for with tax revenue. Mr. Gagnon will look at the IMA. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gagnon will research the following:

- What the actual reduction in chemical cost is.
- Try to calculate what the actual payment will be after factoring the high school and CVFD IMA.
- Break down what the current project is without the additional press and with the additional press.
- Payment breakdown 20- year vs. 30- year loan term.
- Provide the breakout of septage cost vs. dewatering cost

Mr. Bamsey summed up the conversation as needing to look at alternatives if there are any out there to keep the cost down for CVFD taxpayers. Discussion ensued around language in the IMA.

Jason left the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Mr. Bamsey asked Mrs. Snow to contact Janine Bean to see if she knows who the lawyer was who wrote the IMA and if she has any recollection of discussions about protection in the IMA regarding capital improvements.

FIRE CHIEFS BUSINESS

Chief Solomon had a reimbursement from the State for the EMS warm zone training that was done last April for \$1,514.42 and asked it be restored to the budget lines it was taken from.

Mr. Digregorio made a motion to accept \$1,514.42 from the state for the EMS warm zone training that was done last April and put the money back into the Fire Department budget line items it was taken from, motion seconded by Mr. Buco; Motion passed.

Apparatus bay lighting was discussed next. Chief Solomon has gotten a price from Rockingham Electric to change the lights to LED and Eversource has granted the incentive to rebate \$2,640.00 to CVFD. There may be labor cost; Chief has one quote of \$10,700.00.

Chief Solomon presented the board with a proposal from Peter Howland regarding the barn. (See attached). Contents of the barn were discussed. Mr. Bamsey expressed concern for insurance coverage. Mrs. Snow will call Primex to see how the insurance coverage works for call volunteers that would not be on the clock if they were to work on the barn or be volunteering to show the barn.

BOOKKEEPERS BUSINESS

Mrs. Snow asked the board to consider making MLK Day a paid holiday for District employees. Chief Solomon explained there would be some impact on his budget. Mr. Digregorio asked Chief Solomon to come back with an amount of what it would cost the fire department if it were to be a paid holiday.

MLK day will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

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Rules and Regulations were discussed next.

Mr. Digregorio made a motion to adopt the draft of the General District Rules and Regs as presented, Mr. Bucu seconded the motion; Discussion:

After a brief discussion, it was decided to hold a public hearing on August 30th at 4:45 p.m. in the meeting room of the Administration Building for the General District Rules and Regulations. Mr. Digregorio rescinded his motion to adopt the General District Rules and Regulations.

It was agreed to table the Harassment Policy.

There will be no meeting next week.

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned without objection at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy Bolduc Receptionist