

## **Minutes February 10, 2021**

### **RFD#1 Prudential Committee**

**Present: Theron Manning, Wayne Manning, Judy Hayward, Don Lovejoy, John Dettwiler,**

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:06 pm

**Agenda Changes** - none - A motion to approve the agenda was made by Don Lovejoy with a second from John Dettwiler. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Public Comments- none**

### **Eagle Scout Project**

Peter has not joined the meeting so we will pass over this project for the moment.

**Minutes of January 27, 2020 meeting-** Don Lovejoy made a motion to approve the minutes of January 27; a second to the motion was made by John Dettwiler. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Theron suggested that we add Old Business vs. New to the agenda and create a standard list of items we address at each meeting.

### **Chairman's Remarks**

Theron has been reviewing the 2009 Master Plan and some updates made in 2018. The addenda supplement the primary report. It addresses the storage tank including a requirement for 2,000 gallons per minute for up to 2 hours. 240,000 gallons would be required to fight a fire. It references the glass-infused tank that is included in the water plant project. The tank is rated for 50 years. The proposed elevation does allow for gravity flow, so a pump would not be required. If we need more storage, we could not add additional rings because (1) the foundation would not support additional weight, and (2) the elevation would be too high and would require a pump to keep the storage tank full. If in the future more storage is required we would need to install an additional tank. The State has made it clear that we need to stay the course and that we are out of compliance on certain standards and that is driving the need for multiple projects with the water plant project being a priority. There is no way to change this project without expecting delays for redesign and possibly compromising current funding, so we need to move forward with this plan permitted by the State as is. We are getting a great deal financially for this project despite adding the \$25,000 debt service.

Theron explained the meeting with the Selectboard that had taken place on February 9. They understood that a certain part of this project is about growth and that we are likely to need their support in the future. They understand the importance of being able to grow the water and sewer district to support growth for the community. Potential for some multi-family housing development is possibly in the works.

Recent analysis of water rates has shown that we are high. We are a small district, and we have debt service that not all communities have. Because the Town uses the same meters for sewer, the sewer rates are high.

Judy should talk to Ashley at the Vermont Bond Bank about refinancing of the bond that is currently accruing five percent interest.

South Royalton Rescue Squad has signed a contract to participate in the Covid Vaccination Program. They will volunteer on non-work hours to assist in the clinics for vaccination. They will probably assist at the VTC and in Hartford, VT. The State will contract with the South Royalton Rescue Squad. They will not do this when they are on duty. They will be on call. They will get a stipend. They pay RFD1, but the reimbursement will include our match for FICA, etc. The staff is getting some additional pay for this. They are being trained now and are enthusiastic about the project. Theron believes it is a great opportunity for them and a great way to serve.

### **Water Superintendent Report**

Wayne has a portable heater to keep the pipes from freezing. Judy will add in the 2019 values for the water chart and spreadsheets.

### **Administrative Assistant's Report**

Judy reviewed a new report- comparing the year-to-month report of actual expenditures to budget. She will report this to the board monthly. Judy needs to check why the bill is so high at Fairview Terrace.

Theron asked Judy to report on the delinquencies with her monthly report.

Judy is working on the audits, reconciliations of accounts, two reports including one to the USDA because of the existing loan; one for State and one for the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund that holds our place in the Step 3 Funding queue. She is working on the analysis of water use by VLS and following up on accounts receivable. She has begun communication with Naomi Johnson about finalizing the Engineering Agreement for Water Plant Project.

Judy reported on her discussion with the risk Manager for VLCT regarding signs for the trail.

1. If we do not own Kent's Ledge we should not direct people to it, but we can have a trail on our property.
2. If we produce signs we need to maintain them.
3. If we have a sign, the one at the trail head should have our phone number so that information can be reported to us, such as a hazard discovered by a hiker.
4. Judy will review wording with our lawyer.

There were roads developed when there was forest fire up on the hill; for years they were passable with jeeps, but people abused the roads, so Wayne felt it was not right to continue to try to maintain them. She is still pursuing ownership of the actual ledge and has asked the Listers for their record of ownership.

Judy reviewed the three work orders for payment. John Dettwiler made the motion to pay the bills. Don Lovejoy made a second to motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm with no objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy L. Hayward, Administrative Assistant