

Tri-Town Water District No. 1
Commission Meeting
March 16, 2023

Chairman Darwin Pratt called meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Commissioners present were: Larry Simino, Ernest Audet, Lance Wood, Ed James, Drexel Wheeler, Eric Leonard, Steve Kayhart, and Larry Blacklock.

Also present were: Mark Pumiglia, Tricia Gordon and Dwayne Roberts from Tri-Town Water.

A motion was made by Larry Simino, and seconded by Larry Blacklock to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion passed.

Tom Telling from Telling & Associates, CPA PC was present and reported on the final audit for fiscal year 2021/2022. He reported that nothing has really changed over the past year and that all in all everything looked well financially.

Two Tap-On's were presented; the first at 2574 East Street in Bridport owned by Jennifer Lowe who was present as well as Amanda Raab-licensed designer and John Pitrowiski-engineer. After a lengthy discussion on the 2 lot subdivision which will each have a separate $\frac{3}{4}$ " water service, a motion was made by Ernest Audet to sell them water only with the stipulation that their engineer sign off and certifies that it meets requirements regarding accurate pressure per the district and state regulations. The motion passed; 6-2. The second tap-on, a water service line extension at 1582 VT RTE 17E in Addison owned by Alden Harwood was presented by Eli Erwin-engineer as well as Elizabeth Allen, Andrew Allen, John O'Hern and Judd Markoswki for Rolling J's Farm to be established. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Lance Wood and seconded by Larry Simino to allow them water for agriculture use, providing they will be using a bulk storage tank to minimize use during peak season. The motion passed.

Dwayne Roberts presented skid steer trailer quotes, after reviewing a few different prices, types and weights etc., a motion was made by Larry Simino and seconded by Larry Blacklock to purchase from Perfection Motorsports and Trailer Sales in Richmond, VT at \$7,250.00. The motion passed.

Tricia Gordon reported that the delinquent account list has continued to stay about the same.

Steve Kayhart brought to the board's attention that per the Vermont Municipal rules and open meeting laws the board meeting minutes are supposed to be posted to a website within 5 days after said meeting. After a short discussion a motion was made by Steve Kayhart and seconded by Ernest Audet that we start posting minutes to Tri-Town Water's website within five days of meetings. The motion passed.

After a lengthy discussion about the two 'new employee' candidates and their interviews, a motion was made by Edwin James and seconded by Larry Blacklock to hire Aaron Ouellette at \$24/hr with the requirement that he passes the Vermont state water operator 4C license exam within 3 times and/or 2 years. The motion passed.

Chairman Pratt asked that Mark Pumiglia now act as Moderator. Mark Pumiglia asked the Board members to nominate a Chairman and Vice Chairman at this time. A motion was made by Larry Blacklock and seconded by Edwin James to keep the same members; Darwin Pratt as Chairman and Steve Kayhart as Vice Chairman. The motion passed.

It was discussed upon whether to raise the current water rates. It was suggested that a larger increase initially, and then a possible slight (1-2%) increase yearly thereafter per fiscal year. Some would like more confidence in figures regarding accurate water readings etc. before making a decision. Nothing decided at this time, further discussion to be had next month while then providing some examples of percentage increases and what that will look like for the budgeted income.

Steve Kayhart questioned how municipal companies are suppose to be informed on matters; like posting minutes to websites and open meeting laws for example. He explained that he received some information from Vergennes Panton Water District about Vermont Leagues of City & Towns (VLCT) and how we were a member in the past. It was decided upon to reach out to VLCT to gather more information regarding what they provide and costs associated.

Dwayne Roberts reported that there were a few leaks that needed to be have been repaired; Mountain Rd, Goodrich Corner Rd and Lake St. in Addison. The water plant lost power during the bad storm and the generator was used.

There being no further business, Chairman Pratt adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Respectively submitted,



Mark A. Pumiglia
Clerk/Treasurer

Tricia Gordon
Office Manager

