

# Tri-Town Water District No. 1

## Commission Meeting

### September 21, 2023

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

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

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

A motion was made by Steve Kayhart, and seconded by Larry Blacklock to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion passed.

A group of residents that live on Still Meadow Lane in Addison were present to talk about a possible Tap-On application. Mr. Weiman would like a 2" water line from VT RTE 17W to service his camp and potentially three more camps on the private road for a total of 1,820 GPD. No formal allocation application has been submitted. Responsibilities of the residents and Tri-Town Water were discussed, being a private road Tri-Town would only be responsible for putting in the pit and then all other responsibilities would be that of the home owners. There is a right of way which would have to be identified as there is an easement. Also easements would need to be obtained as the water line would be required to cross existing resident's property in order to supply water to Mr. Weiman's property. Visitors left fairly satisfied with the explanation of rules and procedures as to what needs to happen for an approval.

It was brought up to change the monthly board meetings start time from 7 pm to 6 pm. After a short discussion Steve moved to change monthly meetings to 6 pm; seconded by Larry Simino. The motion passed.

Tricia Gordon updated the board on the short delinquent account list. A new list will be generated after next week. In regards to the disconnection procedures it was decided upon to eliminate the 1<sup>st</sup> notice that is hung on customers doors and just hang the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final notice the week before the disconnect date. This also includes the initial disconnection letter mailed out 30 days before disconnection date. Drexel made a motion to eliminate the 2<sup>nd</sup> shut off notice by reducing only to final notice to be hung 1 week before shut off date; seconded by Larry Simino. The motion passed.

An update from the hiring committee; they had met with a potential candidate for future superintendent position and after shadowing Dwayne the committee had met with him discussing a job change. The candidate brought up some health problems that needed to be addressed before he could make this decision. He would however seriously entertain the position in the future. Dwayne will spend the winter training newest employee and revisit the situation and other options in the spring to see where everyone is at.

With Jim Foley's office closing, choosing another attorney has been discussed. Benjamin Deppman with Deppman Law said he would be willing to take Tri-Town Water on if needed. Some of the board has experience with him stating he is a very good lawyer. Larry Simino made a motion to engage Benj Deppman as our attorney; seconded by Eric Leonard. The motion passed.

Dwayne Roberts presented the superintendents report; DLThurcott came to replace the air dryer it was old; had been there since 2001. Eugene Burenelle came to clean intake screen; was very blocked with zebra mussels. The raw water turbidity meter is need of repair. Dwayne explained the quote

from LCS Controls and what was needed; the board agreed and okay'd, no vote required. Aaron is doing really well; taking the long course right now...very happy with him as an employee.

Regarding Dwayne's yearly November vacation and a hesitance with new employees repairing water main breaks alone. Discussed options for back up; Jeff Stone from VPWD or Eric Warren past employee of TTW who is knowledgeable and has experience with where shut off valves/lines are etc. Along with Randy Provencher who handles our water main break repairs. After some discussion it was decided to offer a retainer and a per hour rate to Eric Warren if he'd be willing. A motion was made by Eric Leonard and seconded by Ed James to offer Eric Warren a \$500 retainer and a \$30/hourly rate; Dwayne will speak with Eric Warren. The motion passed.

Meter repairs; Kevin Paquette and Aaron Ouellette are working together doing both meter repairs and lead & copper project at the same time, replacing a lot of meters for our new drive-by system. Kevin is doing very well as our newest employee.

Darwin mentioned moving \$MKT funds currently at Key Bank into an 8 month CD at a 5% interest rate. Steve made a motion that the funds be moved from the money market account to the CD at the higher interest rate at the Key Bank; Larry Simino seconded. The motion passed.

There being no further business, Chairman Pratt adjourned the meeting at 8:22 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Mark A. Pumiglia-Clerk/Treasurer

Tricia Gordon-Office Manager