

Water Commission Meeting Minutes  
January 12, 2006, Durham Public Library

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. In attendance were members J. McLaughlin, R. Bahr, P. Crowley, C. DeNunzio, B. Dynia, B. Milardo, B. Wilkinson, and R. Primus.

**Election of 2006 Officers:**

MOTION TO NOMINATE R. BAHR AS CHAIRMAN MADE BY J. MCLAUGHLIN AND SECONDED BY C. DENUNZIO. ALL AYE.

MOTION TO NOMINATE J. MCLAUGHLIN AS VICE CHAIRMAN MADE BY C. DENUNZIO AND SECONDED BY P. CROWLEY. ALL AYE.

MOTION TO NOMINATE C. DENUNZIO AS SECRETARY MADE BY P. CROWLEY AND SECONDED BY J. MCLAUGHLIN. ALL AYE.

**Setting of 2006 Schedule:**

MOTION TO ACCEPT 2006 WATER COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE MADE BY B. WILKINSON AND SECONDED BY J. MCLAUGHLIN. ALL AYE.

2006 Water Commission Meeting Schedule  
Thursday, 7:00 pm; Durham Public Library

January 12	April 13	July 13	October 12
February 9	May 11	August 10	November 9
March 9	June 8	September 14	December 14

**Financial Report:**

J. McLaughlin read the following excerpt from the 2004-2005 Auditors Report: If in April, 2004, the Town and the Water Commission, the oversight body of the water company, entered into an agreement whereby the Town would be repaid a loan which the Town made to the water company in the amount of \$35,000. The water company was to pay the Town \$655 per month, with interest at 4%, beginning May, 2004, until such time as the \$35,000 had been repaid. Additionally, the loan was to be paid exclusively by the

water supply system s' users with a separate monthly charge of \$6.55 being assessed each user. Through June 30, 2005, the water company had made no payments on the loan. Subsequent to June 30, 2005, the water company made the required payments to the Town.

In addition to this excerpt, J. McLaughlin summarized the Auditor s' description in his report of the various accounting responsibilities of the water company, which were performed by the Town s' finance department, some by the Treasurer, and some by the First Selectwoman. The Town Auditor once again recommended that the responsibility for reconciling the bank account for the water company be transferred to the Finance Director (which hadn t happened after his first recommendation). The Town Auditor also stated the need for enhanced internal controls, and that 3 signatures be obtained for all water company disbursements, not just 1, which is the current signing procedure.

J. McLaughlin stated that he would be transferring the duties of water company bank account reconciliation to this Administration Assistant. In light of the delinquent payment of the water company loan to the Town, the commission asked that J. McLaughlin prepare a financial report of water company account activities during the past year.

**Durham Volunteer Fire Company request for connection to the Durham Public Water System:**

The trustees of the DFVC repeated their request for a connection to the water system due to continued problematic water supply from their current private well. The trustees recommended that the firehouse be connected through a line to the Ackerman house. B. Milardo will research whether or not the well has to be abandoned prior to hook-up to the public water system and if a check valve can be inserted to regulate the flow from the well during emergency use, only. J. McLaughlin and B. Milardo will also review the billing structure for payment for service to a municipally-owned facility. A vote will be held once these questions are answered. R. Bahr also recommended that the commission review the Rules and Regulations Handbook on requirements for hook-up.

**Engineer request for service to 349 Main Street (Grippo s Station):**

Request was made John Sima III, Engineer for Hydro Dynamic Engineering, LLC, asking the Town of Durham (owner of ESA rights) to indicate whether the Town will provide services to own and operate the proposed water supply system for Grippo s' Mobil. This request is required as part of the approval process for a Phase I-A

Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. This proposed water system is a Transient, Non-Community Public Water Supply. After discussion, the members agreed to decline ownership, but accept operation responsibilities.

MOTION THAT WATER COMMISSION DECLINE OWNERSHIP, BUT THAT THE WATER COMMISSION AND/OR AGENT PROVIDE THE OPERATION ONLY FOR THE TRANSIENT, NON-COMMUNITY PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY AT 349 MAIN STREET MADE BY P. CROWLEY AND B. WILKINSON. ALL AYE.

**Water Project Update:**

J. McLaughlin reported on his meeting with DECD and Weston and Sampson regarding the water project. DECD is frustrated by the substantial delay in initiating the construction of this project. To date, approximately \$150,000 of the \$750,000 DECD grant has been spent, but there is little to show for it in terms of a new water supply. All agreed to re-bid for the water project using a base bid (infrastructure only) with alternate (pump house). The goal is to construct a total bid that will come in around 1.1 million (instead of 1.4 million). If the STEAP grant for \$500,000 is received, the pump house may be constructed. If the grant isn't received, high capacity pumps to bring the water to the Strawberry Hill tank will be used. J. McLaughlin will meet with others to resubmit the bid.

**Rules of Regulations Handbook Review:**

The new Rules and Regulations Subcommittee will meet every 3-4 months and will comprise R. Bahr, B. Dynia, and B. Milardo. An update on the handbook will be presented at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

There will be no vote at this time on taking over Connecticut Water Company's ESA rights for the Aberdeen Senior Housing on Stagecoach Road since an official request has not been submitted.

**Approval of Minutes:**

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 10 2005 MADE BY R. BAHR AND SECONDED BY M. MILARDO. ACCEPTED BY 2005 MEMBERS PRESENT: BAHR, MILARDO, AND PRIMUS.

MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8 2005 MADE BY C. DENUNZIO AND SECONDED BY B. DYNIA. ACCEPTED BY 2005 MEMBERS PRESENT: DENUNZIO, BAHR, DYNIA, AND PRIMUS.

Meeting Adjourned 8:25.

Respectfully Submitted, Renee Primus, Recording Secretary