

**MINUTES OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS**  
**MONDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2016 @ 6:00 P.M.**  
**Town Clerk's Office**

**Members Present:** Jes Alexant, Marshall Ploof and Brooks Sturtevant.

**Guests:** Yvon Dandurand (select board member) and Sara Rainville (secretary).

Meeting called to order by Jes Alexant at 6:03 p.m., the pledge of allegiance was said.

**Agenda Amendments:**

Yvon would like to discuss highway department water quality issues with the commissioners; members all in favor, item added to the agenda under Other Business.

**Approve Minutes:**

Brooks/Jes made the motion to accept the minutes from January 11, 2016; all in favor, motion passed 3-0.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Sara presented the water commissioners with a trial balance report for FY16; checking account balance \$32,029.23.

Sara noted that \$16,945 was billed out on January 1 for July-December 2015 water rents; currently \$14,395 has been collected.

A warrant with supporting invoices totaling \$469.36 also submitted for review and signatures; discussion was had and the water commissioners approved & signed the warrant.

**State Planning Loan Funds:**

Jes will follow-up and report back to the members as he has not heard back from Ashley Lucht since Sara resent the necessary documents to her in January.

**Status of Proposal for Source Reservoir Upgrades Design:**

Jes has spoken with John Kiernan on the status of the submitted report to the State of Vermont. John noted that the State has not yet made comments on the report that Phelps Engineering submitted on the Franklin Water District's behalf.

**Water Use Ordinance/Bylaws:**

Jes is reviewing and will make suggestions on possible changes, he will then forward to Brooks and Marshall for their input. Sara suggested that Northwest Regional Planning and/or VLCT may be helpful with updating this document in regards to State Statue.

**Low pressure customer upgrade:**

The commission has not received any word from Mark Brouillette about the status of this project. Brooks will follow-up with Mark about the installation and ask about the final bill for the project.

**Water System Hydraulic Study:**

Jes noted that he is working on it, will keep the commission updated on his progress.

### **Water Article on Town Meeting Warning:**

Yvon spoke about the recent *Town Meeting Tune-Up* meeting that he attended in Montpelier. The water upgrade loan was discussed along with the terms as its on the warning for Town Meeting. Yvon stated that loans/borrowed funds for 5 years or less can be put on the warning for Town Meeting and voted from the floor, anything over 5 years requires the vote to be done by Australian ballot. The article for the water system was a 20 years loan; the water article will be passed over at Town Meeting or will be used as a time for discussion on the system upgrades.

Brooks noted he has spoken will Judy Smith at Union Bank about loan terms and rates for the amount of \$89,600. Terms of loans was discussed, five years versus 20 years along with current rates. Brooks will contact some other local banks to get more rates for comparison.

Jes will review the project timeline to see how the vote NOT taking place at Town Meeting will affect the project.

The commission members discussed having the special water vote done by Australian ballot at the August Primary's with and the informational meeting held prior to that. The commissioners would like to incorporate the special meeting with the Water Districts Annual Meeting that takes place in July if possible. Sara will confirm the August Primary date as well as the informational meeting requirements timeline with the Town Clerk.

Jes/Brooks made the motion have the select board cancel the water article on the Town's Annual Meeting Warning and to have a special vote at the August Primary's by Australian ballot for the water district funding with an informational meeting held before the vote as required by statue; all in favor, motion passed 3-0.

### **Other Business:**

- **Highway Department Water Quality:**

Yvon stated the water is corroding the hot water tank, the hot water pressure washer, the coffee pot, etc. There is also a film that settles in the toilet if the water is not used for a few days.

Jes discussed corrosive water versus water scaling. Marshall noted that the ph of the water is ever changing in the Towns' water. Marshall stated that the water system is doing all of the required testing on the water but that there is always other tests that could be done too.

Jes reviewed how an ion exchange softener (water softener) works with sodium granules and the pro and cons. Yvon inquired as to whether or not the Town should invest in one for the highway garage. Jes will speak to Mark Brouillette about the water at the garage and report back to the commissioners & select board.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Marshall/Brooks made a motion to adjourn; all in favor 3-0, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully,  
Sara Rainville  
February 11, 2016

***These minutes are not official until approved at the Water Commissions next regular meeting.***  
These minutes were approved March 14, 2016.