

**MINUTES OF THE FRANKLIN WATER COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2014 @ 6:00 P.M.
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

Members Present: Brooks Sturtevant, Jes Alexant

Guests: Peter Magnant, Ed Rainville, Yvon Dandurand, Tim Raymond and Jim Siriano, State of VT Drinking water division; John Kiernan, Phelps Engineering

Brooks called meeting to order at 6:16 pm, asked for everyone present to sign in. Pledge of allegiance was said.

Brooks asked for nominations to the chair and vice-chair positions. Brooks nominates Jes Alexant to be chairman Jes seconds. No discussion had, Jes was nominated chairman. Jes nominates Brooks as vice-chairman, Brooks seconds. No discussion had, Brooks was nominated vice-chairman.

Jes Alexant welcomed everyone for attending. John Kiernan reviewed the needs for the water district moving forward. Jes asked John to summarize the list of expectations and priorities. John states the town will not officially take over until January when legislation finalizes the merger. Pete states the board has looked at the RFP for a water operator; this will not be a full time position and would like to simplify the RFP of the operator needs for Franklin. Tim discusses the operating permit and the requirements of the state for an operator. Once the town has officially taken over, the operating permit will be reissued to the town. There are water quality guidelines within the permit regarding corrosiveness of the water and it's testing; which is one of the compliance millstones the state will work on with the town. What improvements might be necessary for the system regarding corrosivity of the water and what treatments the system may need; will determine the level of certification for the operator. Right now the operator must be a class 2 operator; which means they can treat with chlorine and flushing of the system. The licensed operator does not necessarily do all the testing; they can appoint someone to do that, just need to be available for guidance. The paperwork is the issue that is required to be done monthly to the state.

Jes asked about hiring a contracted firm for the first year until we know what needs to be done and how things operate, and then having a town employee as the operator. Jim states that the option may be to hire a firm or maybe another local abutting town would be willing to share an operator with Franklin. With Marshall's assistance that may be a good way to move forward and be a cheaper option. If someone works under the supervision of Marshall for two years they can then take the exam and become certified to run the system. Yvon asks about the paperwork that needs to be done and who signs off on it. Jim states the chair of the water commission would be the sign off. There is not a lot of paperwork to be done for a system of this size. Brooks asks once the town takes over will the state give us timeline/schedules of what needs to be done when. Jim advised the state sends to each water system a schedule of what needs to be done for sampling, testing and reporting and when. Plans are sent for the current year and the next year for planning ahead. Marshall should have the plan of what is needed.

Federal lead and cooper rules need to be followed and are a big deal for the state division; if you are not in compliance with these rules that will need to be addressed immediately, parameter monitoring is not expensive. Putting corrosion into perspective, with a spring water system, water is closer to the surface and PH would be commonly lower, the water usage is relatively low, water samples are done to track lead/copper in the system with regard to individual homes plumbing. Need to keep in mind when treating the system what the consequence is for the users. The system should be tested for corrosiveness to determine what needs to be done.

Pete states we will not take over until January 2015 and asks when the board should meet with the state again to review where the town stands with needs and permits.

Need to get an operator hired this year so Marshall can do training and side by side work with them. Someone can get licensed after such time of training and passing the necessary exam.

Jes states the commission should do a letter to the state regarding their first meeting advising that we are in motion to improve the system upon completion of the take over from FFD#1. Should have an agreement in place with FFD#1 as to who is doing what until merger is complete for the routine monitoring and testing as necessary.

John discussed that the town should put together a plan moving forward of work to be completed and the need for funding of such. He understands that the water commission would like to get the administrative stuff in place first. Tim asks about having financial resources in place; John has assisted the town with being put on the funding list with the State Drinking Water program; unfortunately a construction plan must be in place before Dec 2014 to receive funding. We discussed whether we could get the necessary funding with the bond bank or other local source and not have to adhere to the state's environmental issues for their program. Tim advises there are planning loans with the state with up to 3% interest; this can go in conjunction with a construction loan as well. Need to look at what is needed for planning and decide what part of that planning we will fund ourselves or whether we do everything as part of a capital improvement project.

Pete states what we need to look at are: the corrosion testing and monitoring; a system for chlorinating with several different ways to do so; metering for state reporting; water quality monitoring.

Feasibility engineering vs. planning engineering. Improvement plans need to be done by Dec 30 for the \$100,000 state funding; a bond vote would need to be voted on in March. A thorough study of the system and testing needs to be done to determine our needs which will take some time to complete. We cannot commit at this time to funding sources.

John has put together a scope of work to be done based on the permit to operate as a draft starting point for the water commissioners.

Jes thanked Tim Raymond, Jim Siriano and John Kiernan for coming to review the system.

The next meeting of the water commissioners will be Nov 10 at 7:00 pm. at the town clerk's office

Jes made a motion to adjourn and Brooks seconded. All in favor 2-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectively,
Lisa Larivee
October 16, 2014

These minutes are not official until approved at the Water Commissions next regular meeting.