



Town of Plaistow ♦ Board of Selectmen
145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865

Plaistow Board of Selectmen Minutes

Date: August 2, 2021

Meeting Called to Order: 6:29 p.m.

Roll Call:

Select Chair, Darrell Britton
Selectman, Greg Taillon
Selectman, Bill Coye

Select Vice Chair, John A. Blinn, Sr. - Excused
Selectman, Jay DeRoche
Interim Town Manager, Greg Colby

Also present: Gene Forbes, Underwood Engineers and Beth Hossack, Recording Secretary.

Minutes

J. DeRoche motions to approve the July 19, 2021, minutes. Seconded by B. Coye. There was no discussion on the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

Public Comment

None

Selection of a Water Operator

G. Forbes is the Project Manager from Underwood Engineers for the Plaistow Water Project. J. St. Pierre is the Field Engineer for Plaistow and K. Pratt is the President. Tonight's focus is to choose a company to provide Plaistow with a Water System Operation and Maintenance Contract. We need an operator to meet the State of New Hampshire requirements for operation of a municipal public water system. We must have a New Hampshire Certified Operator with both Grade 1-Treatment and Grade 1- Distribution certifications. The Contract Operator will provide services such as general maintenance operations, water quality sampling, inspections, reporting, emergency operations and special projects. The Town will provide billing and customer service.

D. Britton asks if the flushing and disinfection of the system is a one-time cost.

G. Forbes replies, yes, the initial flushing is a one-time event and will be reimbursed through the grant.

D. Britton asks what will happen if a fire occurs during the conversion process of going from a fire suppression system to a potable water system.

G. Forbes states the disinfection process will need to be redone.

G. Taillon asks how long the conversion process will take.

G. Forbes replies about one (1) month.

G. Taillon asks if both companies have the capability to handle an emergency or something out of the ordinary.

G. Forbes replies, yes, they are both well qualified.

G. Forbes states in 2020 Plaistow solicited letters of interest to begin the process of finding a Water System Operator/Contract Operator. After the letters of interest were reviewed five (5) prequalified companies were sent a Request for Proposal (RFP). The RFP asked for a proposal for day-to-day operations and a separate price for flushing, disinfection, and conversion of the fire suppression system to a potable water system. Three companies respond including WhiteWater, Inc., Pennichuck Water Service Corporation and Hampstead Area Water Service Company, also known as HAWSCo. Both Pennichuck and Hampstead Area Water were interviewed. WhiteWater was not interviewed as their pricing was considerably higher than the others. Both Pennichuck and HAWSCo. are very qualified to do the job and the pricing for both is similar. Each company was analyzed. Pennichuck has more experience, a greater depth of operations staff, and inhouse lab capability. They made an excellent presentation as part of their interview. They are interested in becoming a customer as they already provide water to some parts of Plaistow, such as Twin Ridge Condos. HAWSCo has local experience and Plaistow has used them before for water breaks. They are closer and can respond effectively to an emergency, they have construction capabilities, and they are already the contractor for the Sweet Hill Road Water Tank and the East Road Pump House. They are a source of wholesale water. The interview team concluded that although both Pennichuck and HAWSCo. are capable to meet Plaistow's need they recommended HAWSCo.

G. Taillon asks if the recommendation was based on HAWSCo's proximity to Plaistow.

G. Forbes replies no, high value was given to the fact they HAWSCo. is very familiar with our current fire suppression and are already part of the new system.

B. Coye asks G. Colby if he was part of the interview team.

G. Colby replies, yes and he agrees with the conclusions of the interview team.

G. Taillon motions that the Municipal Drinking Water System Operation and Maintenance Contract be awarded to Hampstead Area Water Services Co. (HAWSCo) for a three-year (3) contract term. The awarding of the contract also includes the responsibility for flushing, disinfection, and conversion to make a potable water system with separate grant-eligible pricing. Seconded by B. Coye.

Discussion: B. Coye asks if we should incorporate billing and customer service in the contract as well rather than having the Town take care of it.

G. Colby replies, we should be able to handle that. Also, meter reading is very simple. We will purchase software and the bills will most likely be paid through the Tax Collector's Office.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

G. Forbes reviews the project. All water main and hydrants within the Town have been installed. The only pipe installation left will connect from the East Road Pump Station to Atkinson. The paving and restoration of Town Roads has begun and is almost complete. All permits have been received for the Pump Station and excavation will begin next week. The Sweet Hill Water Storage Tank is complete. Water Service Connections are in progress.

D. Britton thanks G. Forbes for his presentation.

J. DeRoche asks if the cleanup of homeowner's yards will be done soon.

G. Forbes replies yes, however final loom and seed will be done later. It is too early to do in August as the seeds will not germinate.

J. DeRoche mentions a drain near Sunrise and East Road that does not appear to be draining correctly.

G. Forbes states he is not aware of it, yet he will look into it.

J. DeRoche states the project has been smooth and they are doing a great job.

Old Home Update

B. Coye states the good news is that there has been enough money to have an event. The Boy Scouts will do cleanup, the road race is all set. Next year the event should be back at Town Hall. At least there will be something this year.

Reid Mechanical Invoice

G. Colby states the condenser on the third floor was leaking. J. DeBonis called for service and the condenser had to be replaced. It was an unanticipated expense, and we have money in an expendable trust fund for building systems. The invoice should be paid from this fund.

G. Taillon motions to pay the Reid Mechanical Corp Invoice dated July 12, 2021, in the amount of \$3010.00 from the Expendable Trust Fund/Building Maintenance Systems. Seconded by J. DeRoche. There was no discussion on the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

Approval of prior Executive (non-public) Minutes

G. Taillon motions to approve the Executive Session minutes from July 19, 2021. Seconded by B. Coye. There was no discussion on the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

Town Managers Report

- The pre-proposal meeting for the Trash/Recycling RFP was held today. About five (5) interested companies attended. Those in attendance would like to change the start date to January 1, 2023, instead of January 1, 2022. Plaistow is a large community, and more equipment will be needed to service Plaistow. If the start date is not pushed out the costs will be significantly higher. The Board will have to consider changing the start date. It means we would have to extend the current JRM contract and try to get the cart delivery date changed or find storage for them. More information is needed before a decision can be made.
- Water meetings – Work has started on the East Road Pump House; G. Colby attended the regional partners meeting.
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – monies will be coming in soon.
- Primex – we received a notice of a refund of premium.
- Human Services Department has seen an increase in activity. Things will be monitored closely as the COVID/Moratorium has expired on evictions and collections.
- Recreation Department – held a very successful concert on 7/28 and a successful Cruise night on 7/30.

- Highway Department – the RT 125 islands have been cleaned. An agreement was made for the metal pile at the landfill to be removed. The work on Wentworth Ave is being finalized.
- The Swales at PARC are in the process of being cleaned out.
- Building Maintenance Department – the Town Forest Sign was repaired and reinstalled.
- Next week there will be Department Head Meeting.

Selectmen's Reports

B. Coye

- Attend the concert on 7/28.
- Attended Cruise Night.
- Attended the Old Home Day Committee Meeting.
- Attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony.

J. DeRoche

- Attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony.
- Attended the bat counting event at the Beede Site and then went to the Wednesday night concert.
- Attended Cruise Night.
- Will attend the Energy Committee Meeting this week.

G. Taillon

- Attended the site walk on North Ave.
- Will attend the Planning Board meeting this week.

D. Britton

- Mentions Mary Gori and Maxann Dobson are the new Library Trustee Alternates. He welcomes them.

There was no additional business before the Board and D. Britton adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack

Recording Secretary