

CAMBRIDGE WATER BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

December 10, 2014

This meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Those in attendance were:

Cambridge Water Board (CWB): Richard Johnson, James Tanner, Ann Roosevelt and Philip Weinberg (phone)

Cambridge Water Department (CWD): Sam Corda, Tim MacDonald, Mark Gallagher and Linda Vierboom

A. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2014 MEETING

Mr. Tanner moved and Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion to approve the November 12, 2014 minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- *Election of the President*
- *Board Regulations*
- *Energy Update Summary*

Before the managing director's report was presented, a general discussion began with the topic of electricity demand response. Mr. MacDonald explained how the water department responds to the event and sheds electrical load within a half hour of the event by turning off the plant. A semi-annual reference event is used to establish the amount the water department receives in payment for doing this. The most recent event was a reference event for the winter period. The program is not without an end and will be concluding at some point within the next few years.

Mr. Tanner asked how low Payson Park reservoir could go and still be in safe supply. Mr. MacDonald responded "the operating rule in the SOP says that 5 feet is the low limit for fire protection." Due to the recent heavy rain, Mr. Kaplan released water into the Charles from the Stony Brook Reservoir the previous night through the "hurricane" sluice gate. Mr. Tanner asked if a lot of rain is considered good for recharge or if it simply runs off. Mr. MacDonald said that rain is always a good thing.

Reservation Safety and Security: Mr. Corda distributed the draft of recommended rules and regulation changes pertaining to the safety and security of the reservation. The Board reviewed these and made a few grammatical changes. The Board decided to leave the "GPS" info as is. The Board voted to accept the recommendations. Reservation safety and security will be added to the rules and regulations.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to accept the recommended rules and regulations changes pertaining to the safety and security of the reservation. Mr. Tanner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Energy Summary: As part of the Water Departments commitment in helping the City meet its renewable energy goal, the water department is continuing its energy reduction projects. The projects were presented to the Board via a handout which illustrated the current water department energy projects. Items highlighted in yellow are still to be completed. These projects are the installation of solar panels on the facility roof, Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) on the raw water pumps and the completion of the LED

lighting. A \$200,000 grant has been awarded to the City and will come from the Department of Revenue (DOR).

Solar: Mr. MacDonald said that the Solar Project is out to bid. Someone has protested the bid and the City is working through this through the Attorney General's Office and as a result the bid opening date has been extended to December 18, 2014. The second pre-bid conference was held today for bidders. The renewable energy will feed directly into the facility and reduce the energy consumed by about 200,000 kWh per year.

VFD's: The VFD Project is projected to save one million kilowatt hours per year. This project includes other improvements to the pumping system and these additional changes have increased energy savings by over 40%. We don't anticipate using MWRA water during this project.

LED Lighting: We will be working with the Electrical Department to complete the installation of the outside LED lighting on the building and in the parking lots.

C. OPERATIONS

Transmission and Distribution:

Mr. Tanner asked about lead pipe replacements. Mr. MacDonald answered that lead pipes are replaced anywhere a water main is being replaced. The lead service replacement program began in the early 1990's. Since that time, lead services have dropped from over 9,000 to about 1,100. The new lead content law requirements require less than 0.25% lead by weight and we've had that in our materials specifications for over 10 years.

Water Operations:

The new Ammonia Sulfate system: Is operating well. No issues to date, reports Mr. MacDonald. We are switching back between the original and the new systems to deplete the old chemical. There is no difference in the finished water from a water quality standpoint.

Fluoride Pumps: Mr. MacDonald stated that the operators are changing out the fluoride pumps.

Watershed:

Land Acquisition: Proposed that the Water Department purchase additional land in the watershed and are working with the City Manager's office on a plan to do so.

Polaroid Facility Area: Now that the Market Basket family dispute is over, it is anticipated that the redevelopment will resume construction.

Railroad Tracks: Ms. Roosevelt suggested that Board members view the area of the recently acquired railroad tracks to aid in future bike path discussions.

Business:

No comments

Engineering Division:

No comments

D. ACTION ITEMS

Election of the 2015 Water Board President:

Mr. Tanner moved and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion to nominate Ann Roosevelt as President of the Water Board for the 2015 term. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Ann Roosevelt was re-elected as President of the Water Board for 2015.

E. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

None

F. NEW BUSINESS

None

Mr. Tanner moved and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

G. NEXT MEETING DATES /TOPICS

- January 14, 2015 – Approved /Eco-Counter Information
- February 11, 2015 – Approved/Climate Protection Vulnerability Assessment
- March 11, 2015 – Approved/Security Vulnerability Assessment

Minutes approved by vote of the Board.

Signed: _____

Ann C. Roosevelt, President

Date: _____