

## Town of Milford – Board of Water Commissioners Meeting Minutes – February 22, 2024

### Meeting Called to Order – 3:15 PM.

In attendance were: Chairman Jonathan Bruce, member Jamie Luchini, and member Philip Ciaramicoli. Also in attendance was Water Department General Manager David Condrey and Consultant Gerald M. Moody, Esq.

### Agenda Items

- A. **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes of January 18, 2024 were reviewed and unanimously approved by the members. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.
- B. **Receivables Commitment** – The Board reviewed the General Manager's submission as to the January 2024 water billings, those billings being in the amount of \$583,406.52. The members indicated their approval of the committed amounts.
- C. **Approval of Expenditures and Budget Discussion** – The following payroll and bills payable warrants were reviewed:

#### Payroll:

24 – 30	\$23,106.16
24 – 31	\$23,580.81
24 – 32	\$22,894.47
24 – 33	\$23,220.14
24 – 34	\$22,979.63

A motion was made by Mr. Luchini, seconded by Mr. Ciaramicoli to approve as indicated above and it was unanimously so voted.

Bills payable:

24 – 30	\$187,247.53
24 – 31	\$41,721.13
24 – 32	\$42,252.40
24 – 33	\$56,144.13
24 – 34	\$93,154.47

After discussion it was moved by Mr. Ciaramicoli, seconded by Mr. Luchini and unanimously voted to approve the bills payable as set forth above.

Member Ciaramicoli noted in relation to the budget that for the current 7 month period, 58% could be expended and the Department is running slightly less in terms of budget expenditures. It was also noted that overtime costs are up but that is by virtue of the 4 hour minimum that was put in place in the most recent Collective Bargaining Agreement, consistent with all other unions in Town.

There was further discussion of aspects of the budget and the areas where the expenditures are running over the budget, contrasted with those expenditures which are running under. Overall, it was agreed among all present that expenditures are under control and looking good for the near future.

- D. **Water Department Manager on Any Operational Issues** – The Manager initially discussed the status of Echo Lake which is in his words, “full”, showing a 94.3% capacity after needed board removals. This is in contrast to this time last year when the reservoir was at 58.3%. The Manager also discussed the overall sources of supply of water. At this time the Department has been able to utilize a balanced approach in terms of water utilization. The Manager hopes this will be able to continue for the foreseeable future.

The Manager then discussed various of the capital projects which are nearing completion or are ongoing at the present time. First discussed

was the Godfrey Brook project. R.H. White Construction Co., Inc. has been more responsive and helpful in terms of resolving punch list items. Some items are still open and R.H. White is working adequately with subcontractors to ensure final completion. The Department is at this time taking water from the newly renovated Godfrey Brook facility.

The Manager discussed the continuing concern with PFAS and measures that the Town and this Department will have to undertake to respond to Federal and State requirements. The Manager indicated that there should be an article in the Warrant for the May Town Meeting in the amount of approximately \$250,000 to cover the costs of engineering. Once engineering is completed, there will be an ability to apply for SRF Funding for the purchase and installation of new filters.

The Manager discussed the Congress Street Booster Pump station and the somewhat difficult timing in coordinating work with National Grid. The Manager has signed the necessary paperwork and done what he can to keep this moving, but clarification is still needed on several issues.

As to the Dilla Street Wells project there is no significant change in progress with the exception of silt fencing around the work area and some equipment delivery. It is hoped that the project can move forward in the early spring.

As to the Echo Lake Dam project the General Manager met with PARE to discuss changes and additions to the specifications for the project. The Manager indicated that there is grant money opportunity for the dam improvements that may assist in the overall cost of any repairs or improvements.

There was discussion of the recent situation in relation to the Congress Street tank where a hatch was found to be open. It was concluded, upon investigation, that ice had expanded and opened the hatch. The Manager will ensure that the hatch is replaced to make all secure.

The Manager also discussed recent efforts to once again to assist the Countryside Healthcare Facility in relation to a leak they had at their facility.

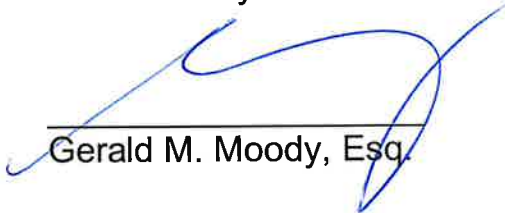
**Capital Projects** – There was no further discussion on capital projects beyond that which was discussed in relation to the Department Managers operational report of February 22, 2024 which is part of the record in these proceedings.

E. **Old Business** – None of the Commissioners had any old business for discussion.

F. **Executive Session to Consider Real Estate Values for Possible Lease Purposes** – At about 3:43 p.m. the Chairman announced that the Commissioners would be going into executive session to consider the value of real estate in relation to the potential leasing of the Highland Street Cell Tower site.

The Chairman announced that the Commissioners would not be returning to open session. A vote was taken on a roll call vote and it was unanimously voted to enter executive session.

Submitted by:

  
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Gerald M. Moody, Esq.

APPROVED:

  
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Jonathan M. Bruce,  
Chairman