

RYE WATER DISTRICT MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA
May 1, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Attendance:

Art Ditto, Commission Chair
Ralph Hickson, Commissioner
Tom Clifford, Commissioner

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Phil Winslow, Selectman

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, Data Chart and Bacteria Tests for the month of April.

Superintendent Arik Jones reported that Cedar Run well is still offline. The crew is finishing up the spring flushing and samples for PFAS have been drawn, however, the results have not yet been received. There have been great results from the flushing and the office has not received as many dirty water complaints, as in the past. The only two areas left for flushing are Sagamore Road and the north part of the Boulevard, which should be completed in the next two weeks.

He noted that the injection tube for the flow meter at the Garland Well broke off and caused some flooding in the pit. The flow meter was unable to be cleaned and serviced, due to its age. A new flow meter was ordered and installed with the intent to be off manual operation within the next few days.

Also, the motor for booster station pump 1 is being rebuilt, as it was in need of service.

The new truck from Londonderry Ford should be ready for the end of May.

Ewing Electric has been contacted to set the station for the generator for the booster station to be ordered. The intent is to have this project start around the beginning of September for completion by the end of October.

The Garland Well (water line) project is still out about two weeks for a start date.

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) has been completed and ordered. It is now in the process of being printed.

Brush cutting is scheduled to begin within the week and will last approximately four days. The bulk head for the Sagamore Road office has been ordered. The cost will be under what was budgeted for the project. The door should be installed within the next couple of months.

Motion by Tom Clifford to accept the superintendent's report for the month of April. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

III. Review minutes:

- **April 3, 2019**

The following correction was made:

It should be noted on the second page that the generator being ordered is for the booster station.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the minutes of April 3, 2019 as amended. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

IV. Correspondence:

- A Planning Board abutter's notice was received for the proposed townhouse project at 1244 Washington Road. (Corner of Washington Road and Route 1). Superintendent Jones has provided feedback on the project to Town Planning for individual shutoffs for each building and a loop system.

V. Treasurer's Report - March

- Not Available

VI. Discussion with Tim Noble, Underwood Engineering, & Brian Goetz, City of Portsmouth

Brian Goetz, City of Portsmouth, and Tim Noble, Underwood Engineering, met with the commissioners to give an update on the study to connect Greenland to the Portsmouth water system. Portsmouth water currently receives water from Rye to serve the Bethany Church and ten residences in Greenland near the location of Breakfast Hill. The Town of Greenland, working with the City of Portsmouth, received grant money through the State to research the possibility of connecting Post Road through Breakfast Hill to the Portsmouth water system. This idea came about due to the recent Coakley Landfill issues and by request of the residents of Greenland. The initial phase of the study has been completed with an initial costs being estimated at about 20 to 25 million.

The presentation for phase one was given to Portsmouth City Council and Greenland. At that presentation, there was discussion about the possibility of Rye expanding its services to serve the next thirty homes (the ones closest to the Landfill), and the Breakfast Hill Golf Club for the clubhouse only. The golf course has its own wells for irrigation of the fairways. The State has agreed to let Underwood Engineering do further assessment on the ability to serve additional customers in that location through the Rye system. At this time, there are no agreements from the City of Portsmouth, nor the Rye Water District (Town of Rye), to move ahead with serving additional properties in Greenland.

Tim Noble reviewed the area on the map for consideration for the commissioners.

Chair Ditto noted that if they could come to an agreement, one thing that would be restricted is irrigation. He also noted that Rye water has PFAS compounds in the water. Some of the houses in that area do not. The water quality attributes need to be taken into consideration and referenced in the study. He would also expect that there would be a "hold harmless" release, for the district, as part of the agreement. He commented that the district would need to look at the capacity before any decisions

could be made; however, Rye does receive water for about seventy residents from the Portsmouth system.

Mr. Noble noted that the additional study is to determine if Rye's system can supply the quantity of water that would be needed to service that area of Greenland.

Commissioner Clifford asked if the golf club irrigation system would be suitable water for those homes, instead of going off the water district's lines.

Mr. Goetz replied this is an idea that can be discussed and explored with the State and the golf club.

Mr. Noble asked what would be required to expand the wholesale agreement between Portsmouth and the Rye Water District.

Chair Ditto explained the commissioners would have to vote on it and it would have to go to the annual meeting for the vote of the district's residents. The annual meeting is held at the end of March.

After discussion, the commissioners asked that they be kept updated and informed as the study continues. Mr. Noble and Mr. Goetz agreed.

V. Discussion – Rye Energy Committee

Danna Truslow and Tom Pfau, Rye Energy Committee Members, met with the commissioners to discuss the possibility of installing a solar array at the Garland Road property (the location of the old gravel pit).

Mr. Pfau noted that a few years ago the Selectman asked the Energy Committee to look at the installation of a solar array for the town. One of the provisions for selecting a site is that any array must be close to a municipally owned meter that uses a significant amount of energy. Looking at the largest users in town, there are the schools and the water district. An array big enough for Rye would take up about an acre and a half. It seemed reasonable to consider the Garland Road site. He went on to explain Group Net Metering. If there is a meter close to the array that is using a significant amount of power, it would first go directly to that meter, which would offset costs to Eversource, the rest of the power would go to the grid to be shared with the schools, town hall and public safety building.

The area being considered was reviewed on the map.

Mr. Pfau and Mrs. Truslow spoke about a similar array for the Town of Durham at 391 Packer's Falls Road. Mrs. Truslow noted that Durham was able to receive a grant from the PUC to help offset the costs, which could also be done for Rye.

Chair Ditto noted there is a 400ft sanitary radius that encircles the wells, which may be an issue. The other issue that needs to be considered is the possibility of a future water treatment plant, which may result in piping going through this area. Access to the pump house and treatment plant also has to be considered.

It was agreed that Superintendent Jones should conduct a site walk of all the district's properties with the Energy Committee. He will set one up within the next week. The commissioners agreed they would like more information on the proposal. The Energy Committee members agreed to provide more information and to keep the commissioners informed on their progress.

VII. Cash Flow Reports

The commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports (year-to-date expenditures and receivables) for the month of April. They also reviewed the annual billing numbers from the April billing. The annual water bills have been processed and sent out to the customers with a due date on the first bills of May 31st. There were no areas of concern noted.

Motion by Tom Clifford to accept the cash flow reports. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

VIII. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

- The Samonas project for the end of Wallis Road has been continued.
- The Harbor Road subdivision, by Tuck Realty Corp, is proposed for three lots off Harbor with one off Locke Road. That application is scheduled for the Planning Board's May meeting. Superintendent Jones has reviewed the project with no concerns.

IX. Old Business:

- The commissioners will be giving a water presentation at the Rye Elementary School to the 2nd grade students on May 2nd. This is the second annual presentation at the school.
- Business Manager Dyana Ledger noted that the Asset Management Grant paperwork has been completed and submitted to NH DES.

X. Other Business

- **None**

XI. New Business

- Easement Deed with the Town of Rye for access onto the Grove Road Landfill property, Tax Map 007/Lot 013 and Tax Map 007/Lot 033, for the purpose of groundwater monitoring.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to sign the Easement Deed with the Town of Rye for Tax Map 007, Lots 013 and 033, former town landfill as covered by the GMZ District, for access to do sampling and management of the site. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 10:54 a.m. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger