

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners
Monday June 8, 2015
Bell Hill Water Treatment Facility
14 Bell Hill Road
North Brookfield, MA 01535

Present: **Tim Nason, John Thomasian, James Kularski, Richard Kennan & Kristen Thacker (Secretary of the meeting minutes)**

The meeting opened at 6:00pm.

Review and approve the minutes

John Thomasian made a motion and Tim Nason seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2015 Board of Water Commissioners meeting. The vote to accept these minutes was unanimous.

Back Hoe Bid

E.M Thibault Excavation, Inc., 89 North Spencer Road, Spencer, MA 01562

Bid Proposal

1	Rubber Tire Loader-Backhoe w/Operator	\$95.00/hour
1	Rubber Tire Loader-Backhoe no Operator	\$55.00/hour
1	6- Yard Dump Truck	\$45.00/hour
1	3-Yard Dump Truck	\$45.00/hour
1	Mechanical Compactor Vibratory	\$25.00/hour
1	Mechanical Compactor Vibratory (jumping Jack)	\$25.00/hour
1	Concrete Asphalt Saw - no blade	\$50.00/hour
1	Gas Powered Cut-off Saw	\$25.00/hour
1	Backhoe Mounted Jackhammer	\$145.00/hour

1	Gas Powered Portable Mud Pump (50-gallon/minute capacity)	\$20.00/hour
1	Portable Pipe Snap Type Cutter (8"-12" capacity)	No charge
1	Water Service Tapping Machine w/ automatic feed	\$200.00/day
1	Infra-red Asphalt Paving Machine	\$200.00/day
1	10-Wheel Dump Truck	\$80.00/hour
	OSHA Approved Portable Confined Space Equipt	\$25.00/hour
	OSHA Approved Rigging Equipt.	\$20.00/hour
	175 PSI Air Compressor with Jackhammer	\$30.00/hour
	Tractor Mounted Excavator (25,000lbs or greater)	\$140.00/hour
	Backhoe mounted Compactor unit	\$145.00/hour
2	Trench Boxes (Must be adjustable 4'-8' wide Approximate Sizes:	
	8 ft L – 6ft H:	\$25.00/hour
	16 ft L – 6 ft H:	\$25.00/hour

The bid included the Certificate of Tax Compliance and Certificate of Non- Collusion as required.

Mr. Thomasian made and Mr. Nason seconded a motion to accept the bid of E.M. Thibault Excavation, Inc. of Spencer, MA and to further recommend to the Board of Selectmen the awarding of this bid to E.M. Thibault Excavation, Inc.

Rich Kennan's Contract

Mr. Kennan and Mr. Kularski went to the Board of Selectmen's meeting on Tuesday June 2, 2015 to discuss and review Mr. Kennan's contract for Water Superintendent. The Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen was going to type up the final contract and send it to the North Brookfield Water Department for Mr. Kennan to review and sign. Mr. Kennan stated that as of now the contract had not been sent.

Budget Transfer from Chemical Account to Electricity Account

Mrs. Thacker stated that due to the cost of electricity nearly doubling this year the North Brookfield Water Department's Electricity Account is going to be short. Mrs. Thacker stated that the North Brookfield Water Department's chemical costs were down this year. Mrs. Thacker stated that the North Brookfield Water Department would like to transfer \$4000.00 from the Chemicals Account to the Electricity Account to cover the last two months of the electricity bill(s).

Superintendent Report

Mr. Kennan stated that this being his first Superintendent report (as the North Brookfield Water Superintendent) he wanted to thank the Board of Water Commissioners for their support in approving his selection as Superintendent of the North Brookfield Water Department. Mr. Kennan stated that he will try his best to continue the dedication and professionalism that my predecessor, Steven Jones brought to the department and Mr. Jones's advice will always be appreciated.

Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department has had a very busy couple weeks, first with a water main break on Thursday, May, 21, 2015 on Fullam Hill Road. Mr. Kennan stated that on Monday, June 1, 2015 the North Brookfield Water Department had another water main break on East Brookfield Road. Mr. Kennan stated that on Wednesday June 3, 2015 the third main break occurred on Crooks Road. Mr. Kennan stated that all breaks were repaired in a timely manner with Ed Thibault Excavation assisting with all three of the breaks.

Mr. Kennan stated that National Grid had broken a service line at 66 Elm Street when they were drilling for a gas service. Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department worked closely with National Grid to repair the broken line. Mr. Kennan stated that he talked to the National Grid crew and told them to call the North Brookfield Water Department anytime to mark services to avoid any further breaks.

Mr. Kennan stated that he is working with new salesman from FHQ on updating our original quote for the new F250.

New Business

Mr. Kennan stated that he went to the Board of Selectmen's office and asked the Administrative Assistant about the status of the solar panels that were being put up at the Abby in Spencer, MA that the town of North Brookfield was going to be a part of. The administrative Assistant informed Mr. Kennan that that "project" was not moving forward due to the expenses involved. The Administrative Assistant did however inform Mr. Kennan that they (The Board of Selectmen) were meeting with another company that evening to discuss another option. The

Administrative Assistant informed Mr. Kennan that he was welcome to attend the meeting and ask any questions he'd like answered; Mr. Kennan did attend the meeting that evening. Mr. Kennan stated that he did briefly speak to one of the engineers and told him he would possibly be interested in putting solar panels at the Water Treatment Plant behind the water tower if it would pay (a substantial part of) the Water Department's electric bill. Mr. Kennan asked the Commissioners if they would approve him to continue looking into something like this. The water Commissioners all agreed that it would be very beneficial for the North Brookfield Water Department to look into this further.

Mr. Kularski and Mr. Kennan stated that they would like to look into Mrs. Thacker getting her operator's license for the benefit of the Water Department and Mrs. Thacker herself. Mr. Kularski stated that Mrs. Thacker would (potentially) be given a \$2.00/per hour raise as an incentive to taking (the test) and receiving her Water Department Operator's license. The DEP has suggested to the North Brookfield Water Department over the past three (3) or more years that the North Brookfield Water Department should have three (3) Operators' at this treatment facility. In the event that Mrs. Thacker did receive her Water Operator's license, the DEP's request for a third Operator would be satisfied. Mrs. Thacker stated that she would be interested in looking into this further and pursuing her Water Operator's license.

Mr. Kennan stated to the Board of Water Commissioners that he would like to look at the possibility of redoing Stoddard Place. Mr. Kennan stated that he has recently spoke to the North Brookfield Highway Department and they informed him that they are planning to run a culvert across the road in late July/early August. The NB Highway Department also informed Mr. Kennan that once this culvert is complete they are planning on paving Stoddard Place as well. Mr. Kennan stated that he would like to replace the Water line(s) before this paving of the road is complete. The Board of Water Commissioners all agreed that it would be in the best interest of the North Brookfield Water Department and the residents of Stoddard Place to look into replacing the water line of Stoddard Place in the near future.

Mr. Kennan stated that he would like to recommend to the Board of water Commissioners to change Mrs. Thacker's hours at the North Brookfield Water Department to a four (4) day work week vs. the five (5) day work week she is currently working. Mr. Kennan stated that as of right now Mrs. Thacker works a Monday through Friday 8:15am till 2:15pm schedule. Mr. Kennan stated that he would like to have Mrs. Thacker work a Monday through Thursday 7:30am till 3:00pm schedule. The Board of Water Commissioners, Mrs. Thacker and Mr. Kennan all agreed that this new schedule would work out fine for the North Brookfield Water Department. Mrs. Thacker stated that she would be able to start her new schedule the week of Monday June 22, 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Kristen Thacker-Administrative Assistant