

**CITY OF BROCKTON
WATER COMMISSION
Minutes
January 20, 2011**

Present: Peggy McGrath, Commissioner
Ossie Jordan, Commissioner
Patrick Quinn, Commissioner
Brian Creedon, Water Systems Manager
Alisa Hambly, Secretary

Absent: Bruce Malcolm, Chairman/Commissioner
Larry Rowley, Superintendent of Utilities
Michael L. Thoreson, DPW Commissioner

Attending: Stephen Torrey
Neil Merrit
J. Michael Duffy
Jeff Diercks
Phyllis Bickford
Mary Lou Sutter
Carolyn LaMarre

Mr. Jordan called the meeting to order at 9:08 A.M., noting that a quorum is present and the meeting is being recorded.

Mr. Jordan requested a motion to accept the minutes of the October 14, 2010.

Mr. Quinn moved to accept the November 18, 2010 minutes subject to any clerical corrections. This motion was seconded by Ms McGrath and so voted unanimously by the Commission.

Mr. Jordan noted that Mr. Thoreson and Mr. Rowley are not in attendance as they are at another meeting. Ms Hambly noted that Mr. Rowley did provide the December monthly report and the 2010 yearly report in the information that was distributed today. Mr. Creedon noted that the City is currently reviewing the technical proposals for the AMR system. Ms Hambly noted that regarding staffing, Mr. Rowley is reviewing hiring a hoist operator as this position was only funded for half the year, also a meter reader was hired to fill a position vacated due to a retirement. The meter replacement program and installation was discussed.

Mr. Jordan opened the meeting for **New Business and Water Connections** and called for discussion of the application for **214 West Elm Street**.

Mr. Quinn questioned the Assessors letter and the number of townhouses listed. It was determined that this was a clerical error.

Ms McGrath moved that the application for 214 West Elm Street be approved. Motion was not seconded.

Mr. Jordan requested that a letter be sent to the Solicitors Office as to how to handle quorum issues when voting on a particular matter.

Mr. Torrey noted that the only approval needed to demolish the existing building is a razing permit. Mr. Jordan stated that the Commission's pervue is to verify whether the requirements have been met to receive water from the City; there are other commissions and boards that deal with other issues. Mr. Torrey stated that he would request a revised letter from the Assessor.

Mr. Creedon noted that a rate hearing must be held during the month of February.

Mr. Jordan suggested having the rate hearing meeting at night and a regular meeting during the day. The Commission agreed that the next regular meeting would be on February 17, 2011 at 9:00 A.M.

Mr. Jordan opened the meeting for discussion of the **East Street subdivision** as the representatives from the Town of Hanson are running late. Mr. Creedon stated that he is still waiting for a final decision from the state, but from all indications it seems that it is a local option when dealing with subdivisions. The petition with the Planning Board has been rejected, therefore according to our rules the Water Commission cannot issue a permit if rejected by any city board. Mr. O'Shaughnessy stated that once denial procedures are filed per Mass General Law they are going to appeal the decision. Mr. O'Shaughnessy stated that the original approval letter states that they must apply for water service by 3/16/11; therefore to comply with the terms of the letter they would like to open an account for the existing building, and still proceed with Brockton and E Bridgewater. Ms Hambly stated that an account cannot be established unless there is an actual building, said building cannot be the old Knights of Columbus building, and it has to be a house as this is what was requested in the actual application. Mr. O'Shaughnessy stated that if this is the case he would need an extension to the original approval. Mr. Creedon suggested settling the legal issue with the Planning Board at which time this can be brought before the Commission again for water; an extension can be requested as long as there is no sizable change to the project. Mr. O'Shaughnessy stated that the way it is set up is each home will be serviced by a Brockton water meter, Brockton will read the meter and bill the town of East Bridgewater, this will give the ability to lien the property; East Bridgewater will do the repairs and if the repair would effect the Brockton supply, Brockton would have the right to go into those roadways and make any necessary repairs and bill East Bridgewater for that service. Mr. Jordan stated that there are issues other than police and fire that need to be resolved. Mr. O'Shaughnessy stated that he needs a list of concerns that can be addressed with the Town of East Bridgewater and that he would provide a copy of an Intermunicipal Agreement for review, and also will send in a letter requesting an extension.

Mr. Jordan opened the meeting for discussion with the **Town of Hanson**. Mr. Creedon noted that Brockton is responsible by law to supplying the Town of Hanson with water in a wholesale as well as emergency basis; Hanson is planning on installing a new connection to the Brockton system, which would allow them to reduce the chlorination level of the water that comes into Hanson. Mr. Merritt stated that Hanson usually takes water from Brockton during the summer when demands are high and the chlorine levels are very high; therefore they would like to install a dechlorination station near their well field to make the water more usable. Mr. Creedon noted that the chlorine level is high as they are very close to the treatment facility. Mr. Diercks noted that DEP has already approved this as long as the chlorine level is only brought down to 1 part per million, the current level is 4.5 parts per million which is almost exceeding regulatory limits. Mr. Diercks also noted that they have already met with Mr. Creedon and Mr. Rowley to discuss various issues including the placement of the meter. Mr. Merritt stated that 1-2% of their overall water need is coming from Brockton and they would expect to take no more than 5%. Ms LaMarre questioned how much in gallons would be taken? Ms Bickford stated that the amount is approximately 6,500 GPD; Mr. Merritt stated that this depends on the weather conditions and if a well goes down, it varies by year. Mr. Quinn suggested that there needs to be something in writing regarding the taking of this water and the amount taken. Mr. Creedon stated that we do have a registration and it is all written on the Comprehensive Water Management Plan. Mr. Quinn questioned how many accounts Hanson has. Mr. Merritt stated that there are 90 Brockton accounts and a total of 3100. Mr. Quinn questioned if there was a policy on changing out meters. Mr. Merritt stated that they change approximately 500 meters per year because of financing. Mr. Quinn questioned if Hanson had an enterprise fund and if that fund pays for the cost of replacing the meters or is funding requested from the state? Mr. Merritt stated that their enterprise fund maintains the costs, they have not requested any outside funding, however Brockton is a lot larger than Hanson.

Ms McGrath moved to support the request of Hanson installing a new connection to the Brockton system. This motion was seconded by Mr. Quinn, and so voted unanimously by the Commission.

Mr. Quinn moved to direct the Water Systems Manager to write a letter of approval of the project prior to Hanson's May meeting. Mr. Creedon noted that a motion to write a letter is not necessary as once the motion was made, then he is directed.

Mr. Jordan called for a report from the **Water Systems Manager**. **Mr. Creedon reported** on the flows stating that Silver Lake is nearly full at -3.25 inches. Also noted that Hanson took water from Brockton when they had a problem during a storm and lost electricity. The running average has dropped to 10.96 MGD and reducing Aquaria's flow may be discussed in the future. Mr. Creedon noted that if there is any question with Aquaria, like a power outage the water is shut off completely. Mr. Jordan questioned if Aquaria has backup generators? Mr. Quinn wanted it clarified as to whether we helped someone get through the process of building a desal plant that does not have its own power generator. Mr. Creedon stated that they do not at present time have a generator, but have planned on obtaining one. Mr. Quinn noted that this is the same situation as when we found out that the plant wasn't tested at its full capacity and not we're finding out that it was build without its own power generating facility.

RECESS

Recorder malfunction – no record of remainder of meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Alisa Hambly
Secretary

Certified by:

Brian M. Creedon
Water Systems Manager
Clerk of the Commission