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**CITY OF BROCKTON  
WATER COMMISSION  
Minutes  
May 19, 2011**

**Present:** Bruce Malcolm, Chairman/Commissioner  
Peggy McGrath, Commissioner  
Ossie Jordan, Commissioner  
Brian Creedon, Water Systems Manager  
Michael L. Thoreson, DPW Commissioner  
Alisa Hambly, Secretary

**Absent:** Patrick Quinn, Commissioner

**Attending:** Ron Poliseno  
Marguerite D'Angelo  
Jason Jace  
Jeff Hanson  
Dave Wilson  
Alfredo Andres  
Rebecca McEnroe

**Mr. Malcolm called the meeting to order at 9:08 A.M., noting that a quorum is present and the meeting is NOT being recorded.**

Mr. Malcolm called for a report from the **Superintendent of Utilities**. **Mr. Rowley reported** that the April's monthly report was included in the meeting information; regarding water mains – Crane Road is  $\frac{3}{4}$  complete; and will be working on Leland. Staffing is currently down 2 positions, 4 people are on comp and there is 1 person retiring in two weeks, there are two positions that are not funded in the upcoming FY12 budget. Flushing is complete with no problems.

Mr. Malcolm called for a report from the **DPW Commissioner**. **Mr. Thoreson reported** that budget hearings will be on June 6, 7 & 8<sup>th</sup>; the first four sections of the audit have been released and section 2-9 is being reviewed. Staffing is down and will not be filled and capitals on the upcoming budget are non-existent. The 4 contracts for the meter replacement are complete and the funding is in place, base stations and equipments are on order and the installation of the base station is tentatively scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> and will take approximately one week to install, the computers and software are on order and once received the installation of the 100 point test sites will begin. Noted that there will be a transitional period where the current systems and new systems will be used until all the meters are replaced, which will take approximately 1-1/2 years.

Mr. Malcolm moved to postpone the report of the Water Systems Manager and opened the meeting for **New Business and Water Connections** and called for discussion of the request for a will serve letter for **572 Centre Street**.

**Mr. Jordan moved to approve the application for a will serve letter for the property located at 572 Centre Street. This motion was seconded by Ms McGrath, and so voted unanimously. Motion passed.**

Mr. Malcolm opened the meeting for discussion with **Jeff Hanson and Aquaria**. Mr. Hanson provided and reviewed documentation on intermunicipal water sales opportunities. Mr. Thoreson stated that regulations as far as selling to outside communities relative to environmental groups and using Aquaria and not Silver Lake need to be addressed. Mr. Hanson stated that he has met with Kathy Baskin and Michelle Drury and they have not expressed any major concerns, however there may be issues with EPA. Mr. Creedon noted that the Commission has the right to do short term (6 month) contracts related to water, however anything over 6 months would need City Council approval and that contracts over 5 years are not allowed with the exception of those passed by legislation. Mr. Hanson stated that if the Commission is interested he would present a financial proposal and would like to work out

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a separate agreement for Brockton. The Commission agreed to move forward to the next level and Mr. Jordan questioned if someone above the level of the Water Commission would need to be involved in the other towns. Mr. Hanson stated that selectmen from the other towns would need to be involved. Mr. Andres stated that they have tried to sell water but the cost is an issue as there are wheeling costs as well as an additional cost of 10% for lost water, the best way to deal with this would be for Brockton to sell the water as Aquaria is restricted by various fees. Mr. Hanson questioned if permission is granted from EOT to work on the railroads, if Brockton would allow work to begin on October 1<sup>st</sup> rather than on November 1<sup>st</sup> without penalty, this would be 1 month ahead of what is stated in the contract, if so the proper 60 days notice would be provided. Mr. Malcolm stated that the contract as well as budgets would have to be reviewed.

Mr. Malcolm requested a report from the **Water Systems Manager. Mr. Creedon reported** on the flows stating that the average usage is 9.25 MGD, which included flushing. Also noted that the permits issued report for January through May was included in the meeting information.

Mr. Malcolm noted that the lake level is currently at .75 and that he does not see any reason not to stop Aquaria. Mr. Rowley noted that they are shutting down tomorrow for maintenance and were shut down last week for coliform, and also noted that the variable fee for next year has been cut in half and that if they are shut down they have to be able to supply water as per their contract. Mr. Creedon noted that contractually the city would have to call prior to 5:00 P.M. to receive water for the following day and suggested that Aquaria may want to keep a trickle flow into Brockton at no charge to us to keep the water moving.

The Commission questioned the status of the letter that was supposed to be reviewed by the subcommittee reprimanding a member on his attendance? Mr. Creedon stated that he would draft the letter for the subcommittee's approval. It was noted that the Mayor has stated that due to the ongoing controversy a new member is not possible at this time.

The Commission discussed Task 2-9 of the audit stating that 6 interviews were done with individuals regarding disputed bills and that the audit does not address a look back time; it does recommend that the City develop a standardized look back policy. Currently when doing an adjustment on a bill that has been estimated for a number of years the lowest block rate is charged for anything billed after 5 years.

The Commission decided that the next meeting would be on June 23, 2011.

Mr. Jordan noted that any requests of employees should not be made without going through their supervisors. Mr. Thoreson stated that it is his policy that all requests come through him and then we have ten days to respond and that the response does not have to be in writing. Mr. Jordan suggested possibly putting something in the by-laws regarding the number of meetings that a member is allowed to miss.

The Commission agreed to stop the flow from Aquaria to Brockton immediately and also suggested meeting at the plant.

**Ms McGrath moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:11 A.M.**

**Respectfully submitted:**

Alisa Hambly  
Secretary

**Certified by:**

Brian M. Creedon  
Water Systems Manager  
Clerk of the Commission

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