

Poughkeepsies' Joint Water Board

May 2, 2017
Minutes

Board Members

Chris Gent
Rob Rolison
Natasha Cherry
Jay Baisley
Bill Carlos
Mark Newton

Others

Randy Alstadt, Water Plant Administrator
Scott Volkman, SRDD
Don Beer, Morris Associates
Marc Nelson, City Finance Commissioner
Doreen Tignanelli, Customer
Terri Mikoleski, City Finance

1. Approval of April 4, 2017 Minutes

Revisions were made to minutes. Board approved revised minutes 6-0.

2. Public Participation

Doreen Tignanelli expressed concern that capital invoices have been paid late. She stated that one invoice was not paid until 114 days another 100 days. Doreen stated she did not understand why as the money is being drawn down from a loan.

Doreen stated that reconciliation has not been completed as required in IMA.

3. Audit Status Report

Randy Alstadt stated that Mark Newton's questions were forwarded to Linda Hannigan. Randy stated that she told him that as City administers funds and City provides financials she considered City approval as Board approval. She stated that Board approval is important. She told Randy that in the past City Finance Commissioner and Town Comptroller would agree then Board approved.

Mark stated he cannot approve financials. Jay Baisley and Bill Carlos agreed.

Chris Gent questioned what is mechanism if Board does not approve. Bill Carlos stated if Board can't agree it should go to City and Town. Bill Carlos stated that the 2014 and 2015 audits were not approved by Board.

Mark Newton stated that the issue is not an accounting question; it is a question of who owns the water revenue.

Marc Nelson stated that Mark Newton is correct on issues. Marc recommended Board not refuse to accept but accept with exception. Mark Newton stated the issue is that under the Tkazyik administration the City claimed all non-used water money. Mark Newton stated that by not accepting Board will be forced to resolve issue. Marc Nelson stated that he approved splitting charge for this reconciliation. Marc stated he is concerned that by not accepting audit others will see this as a signal of problems.

Scott Volkman stated that IMA says audit needs to be submitted to Board.

Terri Mikoleski stated that 2016 reconciliation is complete and cost split for wholesale water was done as it was previously.

4. Plant Status Report/Upgrade Status

Randy Alstadt directed Board Members to his report. Randy stated that Plant has been operating well.

5. 2016 Operating Budget Status

Randy Alstadt referred Board to his report. Mark Newton stated that Randy should provide report that identifies how we will end year and highlight concerns.

Marc Nelson stated that Town has not paid City anything for water in 2017. Table provided by Randy shows 2016 payment that was received in 2017.

6. County Extension Request

Randy stated that County is requesting to extend storage from Town. Bill Carlos stated that issue of take or pay continues to be an issue. Bill stated the purpose is to protect City and Town from locking up water that could be sold to others. Bill stated he understands why others don't want to pay for what they don't get.

Don Beer stated that Board approved storage 2-years ago and that he believes fee was not collected. Scott Volkman stated that payment should be made to Board for the Town. Scott stated that original 5-years now will become 9-years. Scott recommended Board ask why and plan to move forward. Don stated contract was that they would build storage.

Scott stated that take or pay is an issue for East Fishkill. Mark Newton stated he agrees with Scott that we should find out long term plan. Scott recommended that Board have he Randy and Don meet with County to discuss plan.

Board discussed take or pay rater further.

7. Old Business

Rob Rolison stated that City is submitting proposal to County for grant to evaluate relocating administration functions to water plant. Bill Carlos stated that issue is movement of duties from City to Board. Bill stated that employees are ok with this. Rob stated that we would likely put out an RFP for firms to perform this task once Grant is committed.

8. New Business

None

Board set next regularly scheduled meeting will be June 6, 2017, 4:30 PM at the Poughkeepsies' Water Treatment Facility Board Room