TOWN OF LINCOLN
Water Commission Meeting
February 14, 2024

Members Present:

Kenneth Booth, Chair **Lewis A Prescott III, Acting Superintendent**
Julie LaBreche, Secretary (Absent) **Stephen Antonucci, Representing Town Solicitor**
Abigail Altabef **Anna Nascimento, Administrative Assistant**
Louis Long
Edward Fox

Call to order: Chairman Kenneth Booth called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Public Comment: None

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda:

1) Minutes of previous meeting:
   - A) January 10, 2024 – Regular Meeting*
   - B) August 9, 2023 – Executive Session Minutes (Tabled)
   - C) Capital Accounts – January 2024*
   - D) Account Transaction Report – January 2024*

A motion was made by Commissioner **Ed Fox** and was seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long** to approve the consent agenda. All in favor.

Superintendent Report of Daily Activity November 2023:

1. **Administrative – Project Management:**

   a. Supplemental planning and design of chlorine injection stations is reaching 90% complete. *Vote pending, item was to be voted on today.*

   b. Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) - School St. Water Main Replacement: Project Status: Attended January 24th meeting with RIDOT, GM2 Engineers, Town Engineering, Police and Fire, re: discussed traffic control and reviewed plans for correction.

c. Approval of Vertikal 6 IT review security cost proposals. Town IT reviewed and finds cost proposals in line and recommends implementing security “add-on” proposals. *Decision to move forward still pending, to be voted on.*

d. Water break- Bridge on 123 Great Rd., key installed was deteriorated, shut down two valves planned for 2/20/24. A 12” valve is leaking. Two phases to install. Requires fabricating size of pipe by Fogarty, cost expected to be $50,000 to $60,000, additional cost likely. Traffic control with DOT will be required. The installation of two new valves will be necessary to isolate leak. Two day closing of the road is estimated. Efforts will be made to minimize hardships to nearby homes. Estimated to cost approximately $210,000, in total. Acting Superintendent Prescott stated they will need to add $100,000 for 3 new hydrants, due to low pressure.

   Chairman Booth and Acting Superintendent Prescott met with Fire Chiefs, productive meeting pertaining to condition of Town Fire hydrants and assuring they are working to capacity and in good condition.

2. **Administrative – Personnel:** None

3. **Meter Readings:**

a. Monthly commercial, *Fireline, and Private Hydrant accounts were read and billed.*

4. **Water Testing:**

a. Five samples collected & analyzed weekly from specific locations as required by Department of Health & Environmental Protection Agency.
b. Chlorine residual samples taken at five locations to comply with Safe Drinking Water Act requirements.
c. Daily chlorine residuals taken at Providence Connection.
d. Met with Providence Water for weekly samples & meter readings.
e. Required monthly and quarterly sampling reports submitted to Rhode Island Department of Health.

Superintendent Report of Daily Activity – January 2024:
Motion to accept by Commissioner **Louis Long**, seconded by Commissioner **Abigail Altabef**. All in favor.

Balance Sheet - Expenditure and Revenue Report – January 2024:
Motion to accept by Commissioner **Edward Fox**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

Financial Report to Town Acting Finance Director – January 2024:
Motion to accept by Commissioner **Abigail Altabef**, seconded by Commissioner **Ed Fox**. All in favor.

Account Balance Report – January 2024:
Motion to accept by Commissioner **Louis Long**, seconded by Commissioner **Ed Fox**. All in favor.

Direct Payment and Payables – January 2024:
Motion to accept by Commissioner **Abigail Altabef**, seconded by Commissioner **Louis Long**. All in favor.

Abatements: None

Correspondence: None

5. Unfinished Business:

a. Update for recruitment of the new Superintendent-Chairman Booth relayed offer not accepted by candidate. We have re-advertised in NEWWA to fill position. Chairman Booth stated some projects are falling behind and financial decisions need to be made but Acting Superintendent Prescott is uncomfortable on making these decisions. Chairman Booth may pitch in to keep things on schedule. *Package went out on 2/13/24. Received one application, Chairman Ken Booth will coordinate interview with Anna Nascimento.*

b. Water Revenue Discussion-*Chairman Booth met with Dave Bebyn, to revise capital Plan. Revenue projections are in line with budget*.

6. New Business:

a. Pare submitted proposal for chlorination systems. Spoke to Pare, asked them to take a 2nd look at hydraulics proposed, and lessen scope, resulting in less of an expense. Looking to remove tank from services to see what the outcome would be. We need to further investigate with Pare. Chairman Booth stated they have hydraulic model to determine if Westwood tank for chlorination. Based on hydraulic model, they will make a decision. Chlorination for next 30 years DOH model.

b. Action of RIDOT School Street Project-Approximately one year ago, DOT was looking to re-do School Street. DOT inquired as to whether the LWC would be interested in doing some of their own work with the same contractor DOT was using. LWC would like to piggyback this work with new water lines. Proposed project will likely go from 1.85 million to 2 million. Chairman Booth responded estimated bill was $750,000. Water mains need replacement, DOT to cover 50%, LWC to cover other 50%. LWC looking at 6 months to produce plans, another 6 months for DOH review. Bob Strom met with Anna Nascimento, he created a presentation for LWC and will discuss at next meeting. Per Chairman Booth, he relayed Bob Strom was comfortable using 1 million in cash and borrowing the additional one million from Infrastructure Bank. Infrastructure is our source to obtain funds. Chairman Booth wants to propose a special meeting with DOT.

c. Requested Approval of Vertikal 6 IT Security Enhancements Were submitted approximately $4,000.00, Corey Gibbs/Town IT found cost reasonable. Acting Superintendent Prescott stated with the purchase of new tablets, we need to implement policy and training to the crew.

Motion to accept by Commissioner **Louis Long**, seconded by Commissioner **Abigail Altabef**. All in favor.

d. Requested Approval of Tank Inspection Services – Item tabled to next meeting.

d. Fairgrounds Water Supply - Pare feels we could tie-in to Town Water Supply without adverse effect on Town system. Would this be reasonable? Allowing water main into street, allow homes to hook up but no irrigation systems. Irrigation would have to run off private wells. How do we justify this to these 9 homes, when other homeowners on Town water can include irrigation systems?

   Chairman Long asked if the water ban be again implemented this year from June through September. Chairman Booth replied revenue was low due to increased rainfall. Chairman Booth will initiate a special meeting to determine new rates

7. <u>Claims:</u>

   a. None

<u>Start at 7:00 p.m.</u>

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into Executive Session (AA/LL)
Roll Call: Commissioner Ed Fox – yes, Commissioner – yes, Commissioner Long – yes, Commissioner Booth – yes.

Motion to come out of Executive Session (LL/AA)

Motion to seal the minutes of Executive Session according to RIGL 42-46-7 (C), passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn: Commissioner Abigail Altabef

Commissioner Louis Long: Seconds motion.

All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 7:41p.m.