

LINCOLN WATER COMMISSIONERS

October 13, 2021

Regular Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Lincoln Board of Water Commissioners was held at the Lincoln Town Hall with Commissioners Ken Booth, Edward Fox, Louis Long, Julie Labreche and Edward Sliney were present. Also present were Acting Superintendent Lewis Prescott, Anna Nascimento and Legal Counsel Stephen Antonucci. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT –None

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to remove from item #1. a. August 25, 2021 and c. September 29, 2021 Special Meeting minutes from the consent agenda passed unanimously (EdF/EdS)

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed unanimously. (EdF/LL)

The following items were approved with the consent agenda for the October 13, 2021 meeting:

- September 8, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Capital Accounts –September 2021
- Account Transaction Report – September 2021

The meeting returned to the regular order of business.

May 12, 2021 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

The Board will read the Session minutes at home due to 20 pages long. Executive Minutes will be approve at the next meeting on November 10, 2021.

April 14, 2021; June 9, 2021; August 11, 2021 & September 8, 2021 Executive Session Minutes were not available.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT OF DAILY ACTIVITY

Acting Superintendent Prescott provided the following updates:

- On Rockyroad Avenue the main has been cut and cap there is no longer an easement.
- The Smith Street project – The Forgaty are moving to put the bypass and replace their 350 feet of pipes.
- He made a crew list of the improvement for Lincoln Water Commission to replace in their system.
- Lincoln Common Mall and Pare Engineering have completed their revised hydraulic analysis which he has provided them with a copy. They can look at it any time they wished and whether they can decide to go thru or not the new development.
- This Friday, he will be meeting with Pare Engineering at the office, with the Water Department to go over the requirement rehab to work on a new a new hydraulic model system.

- Lastly, today he had the last two crew members have been certified official Flagger to Direct Traffic. So there is no urgency that now everyone has been certified. That will be all for now.

Commissioner Fox asks the water main break they had at the Mill Yard down on Chapel Street off Smithfield Avenue. Acting Superintendent Prescott stated on Saylesville Avenue. Commissioner Fox questioned if they billed them yet and did they send them a bill. Acting Superintendent Prescott replied he is putting a bill together now he has been waiting for the bill from the contractor he had sub out. They also know they are getting a bill. Since he is going to put their charges. Commissioner Fox said ok so they are aware of the bill. Acting Superintendent Prescott replied yes they are aware of getting a bill and he is going to give it to them and also add some other charges. Commissioner Fox thanked Lewis.

Commissioner Booth relayed just so they know the process where they are getting from Pare Engineering with the Lincoln Commons Project they are planning. Where are they standing on that with the developer? Acting Superintendent Prescott replied this is what he had recently received it is this last revised hydraulic analysis. Commissioner Booth replied ok when they bill is fine but some conditions have to be meet. Acting Superintendent Prescott replied yes that is why he made a copy for everyone and highlighted a few items there. Commissioner Booth explain he just meant where it stand now with this does he have something with the Planning Board now or this is the first step. Acting Superintendent Prescott replied he does not know if there is anything with the Planning Board right now. He also thinks this is the first step but he is not positive. Commissioner Booth stated because he is looking before moving down the stream it comes if they are holding it up. Acting Superintendent Prescott stated he would think they would need to hold it up to the station whether or not they can supply them with water before they go to a planning board. Commissioner Booth replied right he does not know how the process is in the Town. They do parallel or they get it from them or go to the Planning Board. Acting Superintendent Prescott replied he is not certain on that and stated he could find that for the. Commissioner Booth expressed he would be better if they would assume the board would have everything moving along when they are going to know this is going to be an issue. But they should resolve this first. Acting Superintendent Prescott stated he will speak to Al Renaudi and ask them how far it is going along. Commissioner Booth thanked Lewis.

Motion to accept the Superintendent's report passed unanimously (EdS/LL)

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Commissioner Booth question on the Balance Expenditure since they are already at 33% against 25% the projected. Is there anything that up over the 25% and is this normal on timing paying bills? So if there is something that came up. Acting Superintendent Prescott said that Anna would know better. Ms. Nascimento explain that they are new bills that are coming that were not budgeted for. Commissioner Booth said yet they are some high consumption and the bill from Providence Water are higher they pay more there so he did not know if there was an abnormality. Ms. Nascimento express that the billing goes out on October 1, 2021 but this bills are for September 30, 2021 probably this will eventually balance it out. Commissioner Booth thanked Anna.

The September 2021 operating and revenue report was presented to the Board for approval.

Motion to accept the expenditure and revenue report for the month of September 2021 passed unanimously (EdF/LL)

Motion to send the September 2021 financial status report summary to the Town Finance Director passed unanimously. (EdF/LL)

OUTSTANDING BALANCE REPORT

The September 2021 Account Balance report was presented to the Board for approval.

Motion to accept the Account Balance Report for the month of September 2021 passed unanimously. (EdF/EdS)

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

The capital Accounts report for September 2021 was passed with the Consent Agenda and will be placed on file.

MONTHLY INVOICES

Commissioner Fox asks Ted is that paint for the hydrants. Commissioner Sliney replied yes it was and all he sold them was yellow paint.

Motion to pull Ted's Painting Invoice from the Direct Payments passed unanimously. (EdF/KB)

Motion to approve payment of the September 2021 Accounts Payable in the amount of \$231,992.01 as well as Direct Payments in the amount of \$387,317.89 passed unanimously. (EdF/LL)

Motion to pay Ted's Painting Invoice passed unanimously. (EdF/LL)

ABATEMENTS – None

Commissioner Booth asks Anna what are the abatements for \$75, -\$10. Ms. Nascimento replied for the abatements they are none for this month. But usually it consist of Surcharge 1, Surcharge 2 and Surcharge 3. Also they get to be submitted to the State of Rhode Island. And Surcharge 1 is for the Providence Water and Surcharge 2 it get to be submitted to the General Treasure. There is nothing to discuss about this line item.

ACCOUNT TRANSACTION REPORT

Commissioner Booth relayed so his question is from line item #8 the Account Transaction Report. Ms. Nascimento replied if he has any questions, she can respond to it. Commissioner Booth so he wanted to know what it represents on #8 and what are those rebate he is assuming it is a negative \$10 dollars? He is just asking because his name is on it. Ms. Nascimento explain anything with those -\$10 are credit for any customers that participated on the Lead and Copper Survey. Therefore, all of our 30 customers got their \$10 credit for participating.

Commissioner Booth also asks so what is the \$75 amount. Ms. Nascimento replied the \$75 fee if for the closing that takes place within the town. So the attorney has to call the office and request a final water

bill and there is a \$75 charge for administrative fee for the closing cost. Commissioner Booth and Madam Chair Labreche both thanked Anna. Ms. Nascimento replied you are welcome.

The Account Transaction Report was passed with the Consent Agenda and will be placed on file.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. CUSI – September 3, 2021 Greeting Letter
- b. Citizens Investment Services – National Financial Services LLC
- c. The Trust – Updated 2021 Worker’s Compensation Preferred Provider Network (PPN)

Correspondence was passed with the Consent Agenda and will be placed on file.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Status on the Superintendent’s Position

Madam Chair Labreche relayed status on the Superintendent’s position, do they have any updates. Commissioner Sliney replied they have no applicant yet and they have not had no one is showing any interest. He also thinks they are on the same boat as everyone else that are looking for an engineer and he does not know what the answer is honestly. Madam Chair Labreche replied she does not know either. Commissioner Booth expressed to Ted’s point he has spoken to a couple people for an engineer they are having trouble finding people to work them also. In addition, Boston Water had to fill their position they had to hire a recruiter to go and what it is doing is the private section of engineering firm is they cannot get anybody. So they are stealing one of their people and they will pay them \$10,000 more than they are paying and they say let’s start paying when they are going to see any consulting fees within the next couple of years that is reachable for the employees. Therefore, if he can contact the New England Water Works and talked to the people out there and see what is happening elsewhere and that is to see whether they will take a different tact to find somebody. They would need to postpone Lewis’s retirement. Madam Chair Labreche expressed so not good news but the economy as Ken stated is not an easy fit.

- b. Status on Procurement to hire someone to Perform a rate Increase Analysis

Madam Chair Labreche relayed status on Procurement to hire someone to perform a rate increase Analysis. Acting Superintendent Prescott relayed that he thinks Ken has a few words on that. Commissioner Booth stated he is in the process of putting together an RFP which his skills were not worst to start with but it is getting worst as he retire when he gets it to a readable format he will give it to Julie. Then is the timing she could give it to the counsel and send it out to everybody to comment to avoid the open meeting act violation. And the counsel back to her, in the anticipation to have it completed in time and sign for the next meeting. He also spoken to two firms who do this type of work, for their size of system and one of them did Smithfield rate study last year, a year and a half a few month ago for their system their size. They are looking at a budget number of \$20,000 it would more than enough but he would anticipate if they would be able to approve the expenditure up to that or it could be lower. Because it is a lean way depending onto who is interested to provide. So he will have the RFP to her and not to have it circulated and get feedback from the member of the Commission. Then hopefully at the next meeting asks Lewis to advertise it and see what they would get back to the people are definitely interested. Madam Chair Labreche thanked Ken.

c. Action Completed on Changing the April 2007 Rebate Program for Smart Irrigation Control Systems

Madam Chair Labreche relayed next is on the changing the April 2007 Rebate Program for Smart Irrigation Control Systems. Acting Superintendent Prescott relayed the wording has been changed from the last meeting to say “up to \$200 “instead of \$200 with receipt that is in place. His personal opinion he thinks they should get rid of it all together he also does not think it is worth it they can discuss that at another meeting or other time if they want. But it has been changed that they will be reimbursed up to \$200 with proof of receipt absolutely. For example, if someone goes to Home Depot to buy an attachment for their smart irrigation system and it will cost them \$50. They will only gone get a rebate of \$50 so that is in place now. He also think they should consider maybe to have a mandatory odd and even watering. He does not think voluntary works for everybody but there are some people out there that would do it. But in the situation that they are in right now it might be in their best interest to do it. Like he said it is his only opinion that they have odd and even mandatory so they can put some thought into it. But as far as the rebate if it was for him just get rid of it. Madam Chair Labreche thanked Lewis.

Commissioner Sliney questioned if they did not have this on the last meeting that they decided on specific. Commissioner Booth stated to come to a specific point they purchase it for \$39 it is adequate and does the job why would they pay up to \$200? Commissioner Sliney replied no, they are only paying the \$39 and it is up to a maximum of \$200. Commissioner Booth expressed why should they pay \$50 if they only spending less. He does not know what they are buying for their system but they could say they are paying up to \$500 for something they paid \$499. Acting Superintendent Prescott stated for some instance to put a new irrigation system cost \$500 but they are only giving them \$200 back. Commissioner Booth replied right but he is finding that the program is they taking people money and giving to somebody that can afford to put a new sprinkler system so they are paying for it. Acting Superintendent Prescott relayed that is his point. Commissioner Booth express that is something they can discuss at the next meeting because they are giving money in theory there are no data that is showing they are saving. Acting Superintendent Prescott stated so if they have a new sprinkler system they have to go out and get an attachment to monitor the rain. Commissioner Booth relayed that is his two sense they are a lot of field program that came for the people to try to conserve the water. Also it cost the water system a lot of money to put the kit in those house. They are spending a lot of money with no benefits and make people feel good. Acting Superintendent Prescott says just for thought. Madam Chair Labreche said on and thanked the Board.

d. Update on Rockyroad Avenue Easement

Madam Chair Labreche stated last is Rockyroad Avenue Easement. Acting Superintendent Prescott relayed he had already given them the info on his superintendent report. Also what was required has been done and it has been completed so it is cut and cap where they are no longer utilizing the easement. They are not going to loop the main and he had a quarrel meeting with Mr. Mckee at their office and he had no problem. They had a little discussion and he suggested they had fair and at the end he called him up and saw him the next day at eight in the morning. The crew went on site to Rockyroad and told him they will work with him and they came down and got it done and it is all over. Madam Chair Labreche thanked Lewis.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Lincoln Commons – Hydraulic Analysis

Madam Chair Labreche relayed next under new business is Lincoln Commons - hydraulic Analysis. Acting Superintendent Prescott relayed has given them a hand out to something they can look at. It is an update revise version from Pare Engineering they have given them one prior. But he had found out the reason they actually did a hydraulic analysis on their water system and they did it on the Lincoln Mall water system. So it just happened that the description that he has given him kind of match what they have plan on doing on the mall property. So he redid it so what he gave them is a statistic without the graph and a bund of numbers. Also he had highlighted some interest that have been written on the report that they might want take into consideration. At some point of time, Ken has ask him if this is going on the planning board but he does not believe it has and he will check on that. In addition, he thinks that he has spoken to In Renaulty before but he did not have anything on that. But he will see him tomorrow and he will ask him and make sure to get it. Therefore, he does know that the Fire Department did not know anything about it. So this is something for them to read and he thinks that Ken has a lot more experience in the Water system that he will be able to interpret that to everyone if he wants.

Commissioner Booth relayed in that report they will probably change in 3 months when they are done with Tim with the hydraulic model and will run it again. So those numbers will shift. Acting Superintendent Prescott explain that there is a section on that report refers to replace the water main that is existing thy have now is behind the Lincoln Mall. And it is not feasible to replace an 8" main and a 12" because they have cause a new ramp on the Narragansett Bay Commission sewer station and they are not going to make it. It would not make it and they have to make a whole new task so that part of the report he was speaking to Tim today and it has to be feasible. So it is either to use the dead end, the 8" dead end they have right now which does not look to good or loop it to a 20" main which is an Albion Road. And it circulate as pressure goes, the residual pressure if he looks at the report they will see it will not increase by a peak of a lot they look at 34 to 35 PSI. Commissioner Booth replied right that is the difficulty and the loop is one think how does he say it. Somebody would try to put the needle and this will works then they look at the pressure if they drop 20 below PSI. Acting Superintendent Prescott replied he is not personally too crazy about it and like he said he made copies of what is the most important part of it and left out graphs on it. And his question today to Ken today, his concern what he is going to do when the main comes off 16" main that 8" line that he is talking about it exist now behind the mall. They brought a 16" to the water main line that is connected to the 20" main to the commission line that feed the Albion Road pumping station also feed filling the Old River Road tank. He asked Tim how much more they endure taking off that 20" line without selling them short. They have more trouble to fill the tank in addition they have the new hotel now in this line.

Basically, to loop it if they tied in 20" and what is that get to do to supply Manville, to tie in and what has it good to do the booster station. He does not know the answer to that question but he said it was a good question. So he guesses they have to think about it when he is done with the hydraulic module. Commissioner Booth relayed when he gets done with the module and put a piece of pipe in there to put some flow thru it. Acting Superintendent Prescott relayed that he suggested that if is thru a curve to connect from a 20" to 12" and to the 12" to the existing 8". Commissioner Booth relayed that could be very interesting. Acting Superintendent Prescott express the question if the pressure continues to change they will have to put a booster pump and the booster pump will hold the tanks. They will still have heavy withdrawals in the system and then there is withdrawals off the main. Commissioner Booth asks we allow booster pumps. Acting Superintendent Prescott replied they have the Albion Road and the old Pike booster station. Their booster pump all way down there service the area. Commissioner Booth asks in

their customer area, do they allow booster pump. Acting Superintendent Prescott replied yes there is a few also Twin River has one but there are basically small pumps it take off quite large system on their property. Therefore it is basically to reduce their pressure also it does not create a lot of draw but if they are talking about fire line now. Then yes Twin River has their fire line in their system. They do testing on that and they draw now, they are at 54 PSI residual and also they do test on that late at night. So if he start off with 50 PSI behind the Mall so the analysis will show him during the day 31 PSI to 34 PSI residual pressure. Madam Chair Labreche thanked Lewis.

CLAIMS – None

NEWS ARTICLES-None

Motion to adjourn passed unanimously. (EdS/KB)

There being no further business before the board the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.