

**Bangor Water District
Board of Trustees**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
March 20, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Bangor Water District Board of Trustees was held at 3:45 p.m. in the Hughes Building, 614 State Street. Present were:

Ralph Foss
Rick Fournier
Laurel Grosjean
Gerry Palmer
Robert Sypitkowski
Dan Wellington

being more than a quorum of Trustees. Absent: Trustee Hamilton. Also in attendance: General Manager Moriarty, Finance Manager Bailey, District Engineer Soucier, and Office Manager Marchegiani. The clerk kept the record.

I. Public Comment: None.

II. Administrative:

Minutes: The minutes of the annual meeting, the regular February meeting, and the February workshop were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Bailey noted wage and transportation expenses were up in February due to costs associated with plowing, and anticipated March would be similar. After discussion, the report was accepted as presented.

Trustee Grosjean arrived.

Progress Report: The progress report was accepted as presented.

III. Old Business:

Executive Session: Moriarty asked for an executive session to discuss a personnel issue and related workforce matters, and it was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously VOTED: to adjourn to executive session to discuss a personnel matter and then to return to open session.

Workshop with City Council: Moriarty noted Trustees and staff had met with the Council on March 12 to review the proposed rate case, and the infrastructure and revenue needs that are driving it.

Rate Case Preparation: Moriarty reviewed the rate case as discussed at the February workshop. If approved, the new rates will provide funding for infrastructure projects, fully fund the capital reserve account as allowed by the Maine Public Utilities Commission, and provide \$240,000 in contingency monies to help address the uncertainty of revenue from the PERC and FibeRight plants. Even with the new rates, Bangor Water would have the 20th lowest rates of 152 Maine regulated water utilities.

Moriarty said the increase would raise the minimum water bill (calculated monthly) by \$1.20 to \$13.90 and the average residential water bill (calculated monthly) by \$1.92 to \$22.27. She reminded the Board that MPUC allows 30 percent of the revenue to come from public fire protection (charged to the municipalities) but Bangor Water is much lower at 13 percent.

Trustee Foss advocated increasing the contingency by another \$30,000; Moriarty said that would equate to another half-percent increase in rates. After discussion, it was upon motion being made and duly seconded,

VOTED: to approve staff recommendation of a rate increase totaling \$596,028, and to file the same with the MPUC (five in favor, Trustee Foss opposed).

Moriarty reminded the Board of the various steps now required including customer notification, public hearing, and review by the MPUC and Public Advocate.

Engineer's Report: Soucier updated the Board on various projects:

- French, State and Exchange – contractor continues to work as weather allows. Spring kick-off meeting held with City, contractor, and other agencies. Public info meeting March 21 at City Council chambers.
- EDS building – under construction. Bangor Water acting as General Contractor after bids received last fall were well beyond budget.

IV. New Business:

Construction Materials Bid: Moriarty reviewed the annual bid for materials used during the year. Six vendors provided prices, and it was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously

VOTED: to award the bid to the lowest bidder on each line item.

Drinking Water SRF projects: Moriarty reviewed the projects proposed for funding through the State Revolving Loan Fund (administered through the Maine Municipal Bond Bank), adding Bangor Water had just received notification about inclusion on the final funding list. After discussion, it was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously

VOTED: to proceed with the applications to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for the approved projects.

Newsletter and Water Quality Report – distributed for review, comments to Moriarty by March 30.

Annual Report: distributed for review, comments to Moriarty by April 6.

Meeting with City Infrastructure Committee – scheduled for April 3 to review projects for 2018.

Other Business:

- Moriarty asked any Trustees interested in attending the annual American Water Works Association conference to let her know by March 30
- Moriarty asked to reschedule the June meeting from June 26 to June 12 due to scheduling conflicts; the Board agreed.
- Moriarty reminded the Board she will be giving a presentation on Drinking Water Challenges to the Bangor Rotary on March 26.

Board Correspondence: As distributed.

Hearing no further business to come before the meeting, it was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously

VOTED: to adjourn at 5:10 p.m.

Dan Wellington, clerk

Ralph Foss

Rick Fournier

Laurel Grosjean

Gerry Palmer

Robert Sypitkowski