

**Bangor Water District
Board of Trustees**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 19, 2019**

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
Patty Hamilton
Gerry Palmer
Dan Wellington

being more than a quorum of Trustees. Absent: Trustees Grosjean and Sypitkowski. Trustee Fournier departed the Board upon election to the Bangor City Council earlier in the month. Also in attendance: General Manager Moriarty, Finance Manager Bailey, District Engineer Soucier, and Office Manager Marchegiani. The clerk kept the minutes.

I. Public Comment: None.

II. Administrative:

Minutes: The minutes of the October regular meeting and workshop were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Finance Manager Bailey reported consumption continued at lower than budgeted levels, resulting in a YTD revenue deficit of \$213,000. Expenses, however, are in line with budget but will be examined for possible reductions. Bailey said 2020 budget prep continues as well as preliminary calculations for a 2020 rate case.

Progress Report: as presented.

III. Old Business:

Engineer's Report: Soucier updated the Board on

- Main Street – contractor is back on schedule, with punch list item and clean-up to follow in the spring.
- MeCaw/Perry Road pit – part of Main Street project was eliminating pit (required confined space entry) and move monitoring equipment into pump station. Hampden Water District provided feed to Orrington/Hermon/Hampden for three weeks while the work was completed.
- Solar energy – have issued RFQ for consultant to assist in locating and evaluating a potential (if any) for solar facilities.

Board appointments: Moriarty said Trustee Sypitkowski had been re-appointed to the Board, former Trustee John Hwalek was rejoining the Board, and newcomer Michael Timpson would be joining the Board. All terms begin in January.

IV. New Business:

Risk and resilience assessment planning: Moriarty said the assessment is required by America's Infrastructure Act of 2018, and includes a review of potential risks and hazards as well as utility response plans. At an estimated cost of \$30,000, Bangor hopes to fund part through a State drinking water capacity development grant.

2020 Health Insurance: Moriarty said health insurance costs will increase 7 percent next year, increasing the budget by approximately \$36,000. Continuing to opt for a lower premium/higher deductible plan will result in a savings of \$91,000 compared to the former plan, even with the District contributing to the deductible, according to Moriarty.

2020 Chemical Bid: Moriarty reminded the Board of the various chemicals used for water treatment, and of the bids received from four suppliers for Dec. 1, 2019 through Nov. 30, 2020. Bids from the low bidders would result in an increase of 0.5 percent for 2020 (total of \$152,000 chemical costs for 2020). After review, it was upon motion being duly made and seconded, unanimously

VOTED: to award the chemical bids to the low bidder on each chemical.

PFAs review: Moriarty discussed recent media coverage of perfluoroalkyl substances, used – among other items – for non-stick cookware, firefighting foam, food packaging, and stain resistant fabric. PFAs do not break down, and are found everywhere. Currently there is no enforceable regulation by the EPA. EPA is waiting on scientific data to guide their regulation. Some states are setting their own limits, and a taskforce in Maine was established earlier this year to identify and examine the PFAs. Their report will be completed by end of year. PFAs have not been detected in Floods Pond.

Lead and copper rule proposed revisions: Moriarty said proposed revisions – spurred by the 2014 crisis in Flint – are under review, with final rules expected in 2020. The revisions will likely require additional sampling and set more stringent levels.

Moriarty noted that there are no lead service lines in Bangor's system and lead is not found in Bangor's raw or treated water. Lead exposure in Bangor water comes from lead solder used in internal plumbing or lead content in faucet fixtures.

Board correspondence: as distributed.

Other Business:

- Moriarty noted the Tuesday evening session at the upcoming Maine Rural Water Association conference, and asked any Trustees who wished to attend to contact her by week's end.
- Moriarty reminded the Board of the special meeting on Dec. 19 to finalize the 2020 budget.
- Trustee Wellington noted a conversation with a former classmate with some expertise in microplastics, and concurred with the widespread prevalence and ongoing research.

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

VOTED: to adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

Dan Wellington, clerk

Ralph Foss

Patty Hamilton

Gerry Palmer