

**Bangor Water District  
Board of Trustees**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
June 16, 2020**

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. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, Trustees and some staff participated remotely with both audio and visual available to all participants. Remote participation for the public was provided, but no one joined the meeting. Present were:

Ralph Foss  
Patty Hamilton  
John Hwalek  
Gerry Palmer  
Robert Sypitkowski  
Mike Timpson  
Dan Wellington

being more than a quorum of Trustees. Also in attendance: General Manager Moriarty, Finance Manager Bailey, District Engineer Killip, and Office Manager Marchegiani.

**I. Public Comment:** None.

**II. Administrative:**

**Minutes:** After discussion, the minutes of the May meeting were approved as presented.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Bailey reported that expenses year-to-date were seven percent below budget (\$249K) due to unfilled positions and reduced leaks/construction activity. Revenue is even with the budget estimate to date. The Board revisited the seven percent rate increase, originally scheduled for July but delayed due to COVID 19 considerations. The Trustees will review financials in July, at which time a decision will be made on whether a rate case should be filed for October 2020 or January 2021. After discussion, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

**Progress Report:** as presented.

**III. Old Business:**

**Engineer's Report:** Killip updated the Board on

- Main Street 2019 project – contractor completed final items this week
- Parker Street – undergoing engineering review with start date in 2-3 weeks
- State Street – design work expected to be final this week

**Workforce Update:** Four positions (Assistant Engineer, Construction Supervisor, and two Utility Worker) are vacant; the Construction Supervisor position and one of the Utility Worker positions are being advertised.

**Solar update:** Agreements related to the possible siting of a solar array in the Floods Pond watershed are making their way through Emera and thru legal counsel for review.

**Coronavirus update:** Facilities re-opened to the public on June 8 with shielding and other public health precautions in place.

#### **IV. New Business:**

**BIA expanded pressure zone design bids:** Killip reminded the Board that Bangor Water was seeking a consultant to provide design work and contract oversight for the future work in the BIA pressure zone (Union Street, BIA, outer Hammond Street). The project – estimated at more than \$7 million - will likely include demolition of two standpipes (57- and 76-years-old), decommissioning of the c. 1957 pump station, and construction of a new standpipe and pump station at yet-to-be-finalized locations. The consultant will analyze the hydraulics and flows needed, the storage and water age issues, regulatory items, and cost estimates – as well provide design work for all necessary components. Five responses were received of the nine firms solicited. The proposals were rated for: demonstrated project understanding, related project experience, members of the team, and cost of service. In the end, Wright-Pierce ranked highest overall but was a higher cost than the second-ranking firm. Moriarty and Killip noted that Wright-Pierce had better project experience and project understanding, had performed the feasibility study for the project, and had a larger team and company structure to address challenges. After questions and discussion, it was upon motion being duly made and seconded, unanimously:  
VOTED: to award the BIA expanded pressure zone design project to Wright-Pierce for \$561,800. (All Trustees present were visible during voting.)

**2019 annual report:** Moriarty asked for feedback within a week.

**Employee recognition:** The Board recognized Service Worker Cal McKay for 35 years of service and Billing Clerk Mary Lawrence for 20 years of service.

**Abatements, write-off and debt recovery (six-month review):** Moriarty said abatements and write-offs are both lower than at this time last year, but cautioned that the impact of COVID 19 on businesses was just beginning to be felt – and would likely result in bankruptcies or other issues before year's end.

**Parker Street:** Moriarty reminded the Board that Parker Street has two water mains – installed in 1925 and 1980. Due to City sewer work on the street, Bangor Water had planned to move service lines remaining on the old line over to the new line, using an in-house crew. However, unfilled positions in the Construction Department make it more practical to have the work performed by the Parker Street sewer contractor, Eastwood Contractors (proposed cost \$167,000). After questions and discussion, it was upon motion being duly made and seconded, unanimously  
VOTED: to award the Parker Street project to Eastwood Contractors. (All Trustees present were visible during voting.)

**Coastal Resources of Maine update:** Moriarty said the facility – fed by the Hampden Water

District – is currently closed, without a firm re-opening date and discussed the potential revenue impacts.

**Thomas Hill Standpipe Tour:** Moriarty said she had cancelled the July tour due to COVID 19 considerations.

**Board correspondence:** as distributed.

**Executive session:** Moriarty asked for an executive session to discuss a personnel matter, 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. (All Trustees present were visible during voting.)  
(Moriarty remained; all other staff members left the meeting)

Upon return to open session and hearing no further business to come before the meeting, it was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously

VOTED: to adjourn at 5:15 p.m.  
(All Trustees present were visible during voting.)

Dan Wellington, clerk

Ralph Foss

Patty Hamilton

John Hwalek

Gerry Palmer

Robert Sypitkowski

Michael Timpson