

**Dighton Water District
192 Williams St.
No. Dighton, Ma 02764**

***Sue Medeiros
Paul Joly
Paul Pacheco***

COMMISSIONERS

***Carol A. Stevens
TREASURER***

June 16, 2010

A meeting of the Dighton Water District Commissioners was held at the District office at 11:50 A.M. Chairman of the Board, Sue Medeiros called the meeting to order.

Sue Medeiros said, "We need to make a correction on the ad for accounting services and payroll. The current ad you e-mailed said on it CPA like to revise that, change that motion, revise that ad I'll step down and make a motion to rescind that vote that we took on the ad to go in the paper for the accountant. Clerk of the Board of Commissioners, Paul Joly said, "Second." Sue Medeiros said, "All in favor." Paul Pacheco said, "Discussion, I don't agree with it I think we should clearly go with a CPA that we owe it to the Towns people that we have somebody that's certified not somebody we pull of the wall that says they've got all kind of experience I'm going to go on record as saying no I do not want it I do not agree with it." Sue Medeiros said, "I would like to go on record to say a CPA is great for certain situations whether it be your audit, maybe certain times of the year when important documents come from the D.O.R. but on a day to day basis I'm not saying that we won't look at CPA with municipal background but my main thing is the person should have municipal finance somebody who worked in a different Town retired has that municipal financial background for the day to day work working with Carol on warrants, some balance sheets I think that person can do if for a lot less money than a CPA and keep the CPA when we really need them for an audit." Paul Pacheco asked, "Is that going in the specs somebody that's been working with Carol on it before, that's going to limit it?" Sue Medeiros said, "No that's not what I said." Paul Pacheco asked, "What exactly are you putting down that person has to be qualified to do?" Sue Medeiros said, "We don't have to go into qualifications all that person needs to do is have municipal financial

background and that will cover anything that Carol will need on a day to day basis." Paul Pacheco asked, "How would they prove their background?" Sue Medeiros said, "When they submit their bid the Board of Commissioners will meet with them we will ask for references I will take it upon myself to check those references and get back to the Board if need be I don't care who gets it whether it be a CPA or somebody with municipal background, whether it be an accountant or whatever it is we should always check references, that should be a given." Paul Joly said, "We need to put in there CPA preferable, it keeps the door open for a CPA or somebody with a municipal background." Paul Pacheco said, "Even if we don't put it's preferable or whatever if you put it's not a CPA it still opens the door for a CPA because a CPA is more than qualified it's just opening the door for a lot of unqualified people to apply." Paul Joly said, "If they don't have municipality experience those will be weeded out." Sue Medeiros said, "Our job is to open those bids look at them just take the people with municipal financial background and then we do a reference check." Paul Pacheco said, "And if we get two and we get one that's not certified one that's certified, one that's not certified says but I did a lot more of that, then you're okay with going with somebody that's not certified." Sue Medeiros said, "Absolutely for day to day work not for your audit." Paul Pacheco said, "Even though we're doing it with a CPA we don't have to have an audit every year the auditor does not have to go over all the blocks of figures if an audit is done and the previous accounting system was done by a CPA he can go off those figures." Sue Medeiros said, "I can tell you right now 99% of the time that never happens." Paul Pacheco said, "When it comes to accountant you can have one person that's a tax preparer, you can have somebody that's been to college and got certified, been tested and certified and if you're just going for the lower dollar..." Sue Medeiros said, "We're not going for the lower dollar we've been over this for the last hour I'm not going to go over it no more Paul it's not the lower dollar its somebody with municipal financial background that can give us the work that we need at the rate of money we should be paying we do not need a CPA to come in to check warrants every week." Paul Pacheco said, "If we're putting this out to public bid how do you know already what the price of the CPA is coming in at." Sue Medeiros said, "We're going to look at the bids." Paul Joly said, "When the bids come in we'll know I'll tell you right now CPA is going to come in a hell of a lot higher than an accountant would." Paul Pacheco said, "Reason being they're more qualified." Sue Medeiros said, "Don't need that kind of qualifications to do your day to day work, we don't need to spend that kind of money for that, we're paying all this money to this Peter Roache guy on a monthly basis for him to come in." Paul Pacheco said, "That is past history, we're going for new bids." Sue Medeiros said, "But he's a CPA we don't need that." Paul Pacheco asked, "Going out for new bids?" Sue Medeiros said, "Right that's why we don't need a CPA." Paul Pacheco said, "If it's not done by a CPA

then the audit when it's done is going to cost a lot more money." Sue Medeiros said, "Absolutely not, absolutely not." Paul Joly said, "Flat rate on the audit, what's that guy charging \$500 to review the warrants." Treasurer/Clerk, Carol Stevens said, "I'll go on the record and say we use to pay \$6,000 to \$7,000 tops we paid over \$40,000 to have a CPA, there was no difference in getting free cash certified than I ever had before." Paul Pacheco said, "Let me just say this she's right she got her free cash certified but the difference between \$7,000-\$40,000 was a complete audit of sick time, of vacation time, of everything so you can't compare what we spent \$40,000 for compared to what we spent \$7,000 for if we only had him do what we use to pay \$6,000-\$7,000 for it might have come in at \$8,000 or \$9,000 we had him do twenty more things." Sue Medeiros said, "Paul, Paul, oh my God you're getting off the track here. It was because he did an audit." Carol Stevens asked, "Whose opinion was it that we never had an audit done?" Paul Pacheco asked, "Did you show us any audit?" Carol Stevens said, "I've had an audit done every year since I've been here." Paul Pacheco said, "You've had an audit done." Carol Stevens said, "Every single year." Paul Pacheco asked, "On everything sick time, on vacation...?" Carol Stevens said, "Sick time that cost us extra money, it cost an extra \$5,000. I have it in writing from Diane that districts are so small it doesn't apply, Diane did say who ever does the audit now cannot do the accounting." Sue Medeiros said, "Exactly." Carol Stevens said, "The accounting can be done by one person but a separate person for the accounting, she never said it had to be a CPA." Sue Medeiros said, "That's my point regarding an accountant with a municipal background for day to day stuff, bring a CPA or someone who's an auditor to do your audit that auditor or CPA works with your Accountant and Treasurer and that's how municipal law works." Paul Pacheco asked, "Did we get anymore work out of that \$40,000 than we use to get for \$6,000?" Carol Stevens said, "No." Paul Pacheco said, "I want to see all the reports David did for all the years and match exactly what Peter did." Carol Stevens said, "I don't know where it ever came from we never had an audit since day one since I've been here there has been an audit." Paul Pacheco said, "You're going on record saying that we got the same exact thing from David over the years as we did from Peter I know for a fact we got stacks from Peter we didn't get that from David." Carol Stevens said, "Don't put words on the table every year we got an audit." Sue Medeiros said, "Paul you brought Peter in to do a huge audit. Carol is saying every year at the end of the year David would do an overall audit. What you did I agree bringing in that gentlemen to do a big audit that hadn't been done in a long time I have no problem with that my problem is going forward." Paul Pacheco said, "The problem that I'm having is I'm hearing that we did not get anything more for \$40,000 than we got for \$7,000 I know that's not true so I want to see everything that we use to get for the \$7,000 and everything we got for the \$40,000." Carol Stevens said, "\$40,000 you got a little book."

Paul Pacheco said, "Other reports that went just to the Commissioners." Carol Stevens said, "Sick time, vacation time that you paid an extra \$5,000 for that still does not coincide with what we have, where did he get it from he had no information from me at all and none from Tina, Tina and I were not involved." Sue Medeiros said, "An auditor cannot come in to do an audit in municipal government without working with your Treasurer and your accountant you cannot do and audit. When I was Treasurer I would spend three weeks of not breathing because the auditors would have files and would say Sue what's this you paid this for payroll where's the warrant to match this that's how an auditor works to do a correct audit. If he didn't get information from Treasurer's reports it's not a good audit." Paul Pacheco said, "The figures she's talking about are not on the Treasurer's reports." Sue Medeiros said, "An audit cannot be done unless you get the information from the Treasurer." Paul Pacheco said, "Have Peter come in and have him show us what we got for \$40,000." Paul Joly asked, "Do we want to go there?" Sue Medeiros said, "I want to go forward." Paul Pacheco said, "I do, I do, I do, you know something the other night I made a motion that we have a CPA do it everything was fine until somebody found out that we can do it without and save money. I go on record I personally think this is a personal setup to get one particular person who was supporting in there and that is my opinion and you watch who gets in." Sue Medeiros said, "Peter Roache said you don't need a CPA on day to day work." Paul Pacheco said, "You're right you need him for any financial statement and if a CPA did not do the work they have to go further and they have to go back a year and dig into certify it then they can do their audit." Sue Medeiros said, "You have no idea what you're talking about. Certification has nothing to do at all with the auditor. End of this discussion anything else to say and then we're going to take our vote." Paul Pacheco said, "The thing I want to say if somebody is not certified their figures have to be all re-checked somebody certified the next auditor can go off of those figures you might pay a little bit more to have a CPA but that is the motion I made now you guys want to do your own thing you want to have it non-certified you do your thing." Sue Medeiros said, "Certified is by the Department of Revenue." Paul Pacheco said, "Personally I don't have to have a CPA do my taxes I can have a tax preparer do it I choose to do it the right way to do it with a CPA when I'm dealing with the taxpayers money I think CPA is the way to do it. Charlie you're on the Finance Committee what's your opinion." Charlie Roderigues said, "I'm listening to it all. Pointing to Sue Medeiros he said, "That's where I go right there she's not only informed that's her business." Sue Medeiros said, "That's what I do I was Treasurer three years Paul I know the law, municipal law, certify free cash." Paul Pacheco said, "I'm not saying you're wrong that you don't have to have a CPA I'm saying we owe it to the taxpayers to give them certified figures." Sue Medeiros said, "They're going to get certified figures but also we are

responsible to the taxpayer to save money if we don't have to spend it." Paul Joly said, "You get certified figures when we get the audit done." Paul Pacheco said, "Do the audit in three years that auditor is going to have to re-do everything the accountant did because he can't go off of his figures because he's not a CPA." Sue Medeiros said, "Of course he can those figures every year are certified by D.O.R. how do you think you get your free cash you don't get your free cash unless they're certified." Paul Pacheco said, "Let me tell you something what the state sees is a general overview not each and every single penny." Sue Medeiros and Carol Stevens said, "They see every single penny." Sue Medeiros said, "They go through every little thing." Paul Pacheco said, "I don't know the correct answer but I'd be willing to bet fifty cents that gets spent at the hardware store state employee didn't look and say yes that's fifty cents there that was done by an accountant that gave them a total they went off of total figure what was minor parts the state does not see every single little thing." Sue Medeiros said, "You said fifty cents you spent fifty cents at the hardware store you get a bill an invoice it goes over to the Treasurer to be paid that invoice and that warrant where that bill is paid becomes part of the record that the auditor finds when he's auditing a district or a town that fifty cents is accountable." Paul Pacheco said, "You just said the state looks at everything the state doesn't." Sue Medeiros said, "Of course they do." Paul Pacheco said, "The accountant does the total the state looks at the total." Sue Medeiros said, "The State's not going to come in and look at the fifty cents." Paul Pacheco said, "That's right and you just told me they did you said they look at every penny they don't look at every penny that's why I want a CPA." Sue Medeiros said, "Paul you're starting to read little things into everything. So in other words accountants in today's world, town accountants are all crooks." Paul Pacheco said, "I didn't say they're crooks I said I want a certified I want it certified." Paul Joly said, "That's what you're indicating." Sue Medeiros said, "Carol let me ask you a question when Peter Roache comes in how often in the month, before the Board wanted him to come in to check the warrants." Carol Stevens said, "He didn't come in at all we were getting a bill every month saying that he was giving us a report I have no report." Paul Pacheco said, "I want to make sure CPA accountant is doing it because they're coming after me I want to make sure I have a CPA behind me not a tax preparer behind it." Sue Medeiros said, "Paul the day you got elected when you raised your hand you swore you would uphold the law and I did the same thing and when I sign that warrant I'm upholding my end." Paul Pacheco said, "I go on the record saying that I still uphold motion that I made that I think that we have a CPA." Sue Medeiros said, "Carol I made the motion Paul Joly seconded it that we will go with the ad saying municipal financial background preferable a CPA that way it gives us the flexibility to look at both how much they charge, CPA comes in at \$100 with municipal background and all the others come in at \$100 without a municipal background common

sense which one we are going with." Paul Joly said, "CPA." Sue Medeiros said, "All in favor, aye." Paul Joly said, "Aye." Paul Pacheco said, "Opposed." Sue Medeiros said, "I make a motion to adjourn at 12:15." Paul Joly said, "Second." Sue Medeiros said, "E-mail us a copy of the new ad"

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol A. Stevens
District Clerk

Those in Attendance:

Sue Medeiros
Paul Joly
Paul Pacheco
Charles Roderigues

Charles Cestodio Jr.

Carol A. Stevens

Dorian Jefferson

