

# DIGHTON WATER DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

May 26, 2011

The Annual Meeting of the Dighton Water District was held in the Cafeteria at the Dighton Middle School on Thursday, May 26, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. The Warrant for the meeting was posted on May 17, 2011 at the Town Offices and the Post Offices in Dighton.

District Clerk, Carol Stevens, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and went as follows:

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted to dispense with the reading of the Warrant.

## ARTICLE I

On a motion made and seconded, Attorney, Robert Fredericks was nominated Moderator for the evening.

## ARTICLE II

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to hear the reports of the officers as written.

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to dispense reading of articles and reference be made to them by number and content, adjournment be considered at 10:00 P.M motion carried.

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to hear a report from the Chairman of the Board. On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to accept the report.

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to hear a report from the Chairman of the Finance Committee. On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to accept the report.

## ARTICLE III

On a motion made and seconded the District voted to raise and Appropriate, \$14, 972.60 to compensate officers as described under Article 3.

## ARTICLE IV

On a motion made and seconded the District voted unanimously to Bond the Treasurer in accordance with Section 121, Chapter 41, of the General Laws, \$1,628.00.

## ARTICLE V

On a motion made and seconded the District voted unanimously to raise and appropriate \$555,485.81 for the redemption of District Bonds and Notes becoming due in the year ending June 30, 2012 and to pay the interest on District Debt.

#### ARTICLE VI

On a motion made and seconded, to raise and appropriate, \$1,403,054.00 to defray District charges and assessments for the year ending June 30, 2012 as approved by the Commissioners of the District. Included in this amount is the salary and wages for Fiscal 2012 which includes employee raises per contract negotiations signed by the Union and the Commissioners.

#### ARTICLE VII

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Commissioners to borrow from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the year ending June 30, 2012 in accordance with the General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and Acts in Amendment thereof, and including in addition thereto, Chapter 849 of the Acts of 1969, as amended, and to issue a note or notes therefor payable within one year and to renew any notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44, of the General Laws.

#### ARTICLE VIII

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to raise and appropriate \$1,400.00 for a required D.E.P. Assessment.

#### ARTICLE IX

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to raise and appropriate \$1,400.00 for certified mailings.

#### ARTICLE X

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to raise and appropriate \$2,500.00 for a water awareness program.

#### ARTICLE XI

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to raise and appropriate, \$9,000.00 to the District's reserve account, said monies to be expended from said account by approval of the Dighton Water District's Finance Committee. Spending shall be capped at \$9,000.00.

#### ARTICLE XII

On a motion made and seconded, the District voted unanimously to transfer from free cash \$250,000 for distribution and drinking water sources.

### ARTICLE XIII

A was motion made and seconded, to accept MA General Law Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause 56. James Ready made a motion to table, a hand count was taken motion was defeated. Edward Swartz made a motion to amend, motion was seconded to add at the end Water District establish the following guidelines as setup per the Town of Dighton Assessor's office similar guidelines maybe setup by the Selectmen so it's consistent throughout the whole Town, subject to the adoption by the Town, amendment was approved, original motion was passed.

### ARTICLE XIV

On motion made and seconded, the District voted to unanimously to transfer from free cash \$16,000 to clean two of three lagoons at 192 Williams St.

### ARTICLE XV

A motion was made and seconded to transfer \$50,000 from free cash to purchase an enclosed cargo trailer to replace the 1985 panel van and two pickups one to replace a 1996 pickup; and to dispose of the 1985 panel van and the 1996 pickup truck in the best interest of the District.

### ARTICLE XVI

On a petition submitted and read by Glenn Jefferson, Partitioning the Board of Water Commissioners to purchase a video recorder and tripod, to allow the recording of the monthly meetings and other meetings held by the Board. The Dighton cable network will then play the recordings back on the local cable network, price not to exceed \$1,000. Finance Committee did not recommend. Motion was made by Glenn Jefferson, seconded by Pamela Jefferson. Pamela Jefferson stated Sue Medeiros said the \$1,000 could be taken from free cash to buy the camera. Patrick Menges mentioned it would be helpful to entertain a friendly amendment indicating where the money would come from to amend the motion made under Article 16. Patrick Menges declined to make the amendment. Glenn Jefferson made a motion to add the terms that money shall be used from free cash, motion was seconded. Edward Swartz asked for the Finance Committee's recommendation now that we know where the finance is coming from free cash and the recommendation be based on financial capability of the District not necessarily do we or don't we need to purchase a camera, can the District Financial support this purchase. Finance Committee recommended the camera purchase. The amendment passed; vote on the original motion passed.

### ARTICLE XVII

On a petition submitted and read by Glenn Jefferson, petitioning the Board of Water Commissioners to take whatever means are necessary to ensure that the monthly meetings and any special meetings that are held by the Board are recorded and made available to the Dighton Cable Commission for rebroadcast. This should cover all aspects necessary to make these meetings available to the public for viewing, such as 1) Ensuring the camera equipment is operational and recording at each meeting. 2) Making it the responsibilities

of staff to transfer deliver a copy of videos to cable commission. 3) Securing a regular scheduled time slot on the cable channel that these meeting will be broadcasted so the public knows when they can watch. 4) Ensuring that a copy is stored and kept for historical purposes. Glenn Jefferson stated Sue Medeiros gave me advice, discussion was held on the responsibilities and liabilities involved. James Ready made a motion to move the question, motion was seconded, hand count was taken, article passed.

#### ARTICLE XVIII

On a motion made and seconded the District voted unanimously to eliminate any Elected Dighton Water District Commissioner's rights to health insurance benefits to lower the expense of the Dighton Water District.

#### ARTICLE XIX

No motion was made. Moved to Article XX.

#### ARTICLE XX

On a motion made and seconded the District voted to give the Dighton Water District Commissioners the authority to sell/and or/lease the property at 527 Somerset Avenue Dighton, MA pursuant to M.G.L., C. 30B.

#### ARTICLE XXI

A motion was made and seconded that the District vote to have the Dighton Water District Commissioners transfer \$231,408.00 from Capital Improvement for a down payment and the first year's payments and interest towards a parcel of nine acres more or less of land and buildings located at Williams St., No. Dighton, MA shown on a plan of land by John W. DeLano and Associates, Inc., Division of Property Approval not required plan of Land in Dighton, MA owned by Linsey Family Limited Partnership, signed by John DeLano. Lot 0000.0, parcel address:100 Williams St., Book 4402, Page 63 total land area 1.04. A motion was made and seconded to amend the article by adding at the end: Said monies only to be expended when a grant is received. Edward Swartz made a motion to table Article XXI, Nancy Goulart seconded the motion. A hand count was taken. 14- No votes, 14, yes votes, Attorney, Robert Fredericks stated he was a voting member he voted opposed. Vote to table was defeated. James Ready made a motion to move the question, the motion was seconded, a vote was taken the motion to move the question was approved. A hand count was taken 8 opposed, 20 in favor, article passed.

#### ARTICLE XXII

On a motion made and seconded the District voted unanimously to transfer \$300,000 from free cash and \$200,000 from Capital Improvement to reduce the tax rate.

#### ARTICLE XXIII

Attorney, Robert Fredericks asked if there was any other business to come before the meeting. Edward Swartz made a motion to ask the Board of Commissioners to place an article on Fall Special Town Meeting place \$500,000 from Capital Improvement into a

separate account to be utilized \$50,000 a year for each of the next ten years to be used bond and loan payments of the Water Treatment plant for those ten years proceeding so we can reduce the tax rate. Attorney, Matthew Costa determined whether or not it was in the scope of the warrant. It was ruled out of the scope of the warrant. Attorney, Robert Fredericks took it as a comment not a motion.

Nancy Goulart asked for an update on defining the District. A brief discussion was held. Commissioners mentioned defining the District would be a top priority and an informational meeting would be held in June for questions and concerns.

Attorney, Robert Fredericks took a last call on any other business to come before the meeting or any other motions.

Attorney, Robert Fredericks re-appointed the Finance Committee. A motion made and seconded, the meeting dissolved at 9:18 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Stevens  
District Clerk

Board of Water Commissioners

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