

Dighton Water District

192 Williams St.
No. Dighton, Ma 02764

**Paul Joly
Patrick Menges
Sue Medeiros**

COMMISSIONERS

***Carol A. Stevens*
TREASURER**

January 10, 2012

Chairman of the Board, Paul Joly called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M., Patrick Menges seconded the motion, all were in favor. Commissioner, Sue Medeiros was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

OPEN BIDS FOR SALE OF SOMERSET AVENUE PROPERTY

Patrick Menges VOTED; In the absence of any bids for sale of the District's Somerset Avenue property, I move that the District continue to display its "For Sale" sign at the site, and that when a prospective buyer comes forward, we again post in the Central Register and advertise as required a new period of opportunity for submission of sealed bids. Patrick Menges asked if the motion was going to be seconded. Paul Joly replied, "No I want to add something to it. Patrick Menges replied, "When a motion is made Mr. Chairman it should be either seconded or I should withdraw before this discussion." Paul Joly asked Patrick Menges to withdraw it. Patrick Menges replied, "The motion should be seconded before we discuss it." Paul Joly seconded the motion. Paul Joly asked, "All in favor?"

Patrick Menges in favor, Paul Joly not in favor. Discussion was held. Agreed a regular for sale sign would be put up indicating the property is available.

APPROVE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS

Patrick Menges VOTED; The minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Commission of Tuesday, 13 December 2011, and of the social meeting of the Commission of Thursday, 22 December 2011, stand approved as prepared by the Clerk of the District and the Clerk of the Board, respectively, and that a minute of the cancellation of a special meeting of the Commission which had been scheduled for 9:00 A.M. on Friday, 6 January 2012, out of respect for the memory of the late Joseph Elizardo, Jr., Commissioner Medeiros' brother, be approved and signed, and that they be publicly posted on the District web site and released for posting on Dighton.com, with the exception of the minutes of the executive session part of the Commission's meeting on 13 December 2011, which should remain undisclosed pending later review by the Board, seconded, Paul Joly, all were in favor.

APPROVE WARRANTS

Patrick Menges VOTED; The Board proceed to approve the warrants for the payment of monthly bills, seconded, Paul Joly, all were in favor.

Patrick Menges VOTED; The warrants be approved as prepared by the Accountant, seconded, Paul Joly, all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

Patrick Menges read letter sent to the Board of Selectmen (letter attached.)

Patrick Menges mentioned the Board was in receipt of a copy of an e-mail sent by the District's Engineer Mark Owen, to Superintendent Cestodio, on Wednesday, 4 January 2012; Subject:EEA Grant, informing the Board that the Dighton Water District has failed to receive a state Drinking Water Supply Protection Program grant for the purchase of land on Williams Street contiguous to the Walker

Street wellfield.

Patrick Menges mentioned the Board had received notification from the Secretary of the Commonwealth of a requirement that pending state legislation relative to the District be advertised in the newspaper within thirty days and that the Secretary be given proof of the publication of the advertisement within sixty days.

MEETINGS WITH SCHEDULED GUESTS

Patrick Menges VOTED; To proceed to our meetings with scheduled guests beginning with our Financial Advisor Mr. Mark Abraham. Mark Abraham gave an update on the financial project.

Patrick Menges VOTED; To reconvene the Board of Commissioners at 7:30 P.M., seconded, Sue Medeiros, all were in favor. Finance Committee Chairman Karen O'Connor called the Finance Committee to order.

Patrick Menges reviewed with the Finance Committee warrant articles for a Special District Meeting scheduled for Thursday, 16th of February. (Copy of the Warrant attached)

Articles three thru six require the Finance Committee to approve or disapprove the articles.

Patrick Menges mentioned Article five tax refunds \$166,000 would require a 2/3 vote of the District at a District Meeting to remove the money from Stabilization.

Patrick Menges mentioned the Finance Committee needed to have a quorum, they would need to sign the warrant and one person would need to explain. It was brought up in conversation Michael Perry and Joe Pimento were in Florida.

The Board mentioned they advertised in the paper regarding refunds and gave everyone one month to submit. Patrick Menges mentioned they received approximately \$299,000 in refund requests; the Board

had reviewed them one by one, were now at \$166,000 but still weren't finished.

Patrick Menges mentioned Article VI may not be necessary.

Karen O'Connor asked for an explanation on refunds. Patrick Menges mentioned the Board accepted applications for one month, received approximately \$299,000 in total applications, the Board went through them all one by one \$165,000 plus thousand, several applications action delayed. The Board must have the approval of the District to fund them.

Michael Callahan of the Finance Committee asked, "Out of curiosity how many households need to be out of the District?" Patrick Menges answered, "Difficult to say. This Special Meeting will make it possible for us to know one way or the other where we stand with the fund balance with what to do with the budget for the Annual Meeting in May."

Karen O'Connor asked, "By doing this are we putting a hardship on the District at all? Patrick's reply; Very simply no, the truth of the matter is we're in very good shape we're in very good shape I'm telling you it's not a stroke of genius on anyone's part on if you're religious like me it's the hand of God but the truth of the matter is we're in good shape, as far as meeting this requirement, getting through the rest of this fiscal year, being able to pay the Treatment Plant Bonds at the beginning of the next fiscal year and still having enough money to keep the taxes reasonable, we're healthy, we're healthy. I will say part of that is because of the unfortunate aspect of not going through with the Williams St. purchase you know that's \$231,000 returned to Capital Improvements right there." Sue Medeiros mentioned there was \$117,000 in free cash. Patrick Menges mentioned we have prospective income from the sale of the Somerset Ave. property if we locate a buyer which we must, valued at \$250,000 we're not going to sell it for less than market value and that would go into free cash so we're healthy it's very important that the Somerset Avenue property move as it stands right now we insure it, we heat it, we mow the lawn, it has to be kept painted and roofed, property is a two edged sword the longer we keep it the more it costs and it's not in our best interest to hang on to it so we're anxious to sell it.

Karen O'Connor asked if the sign was going backup. Patrick Menges mentioned a hardware for sale sign with the District's phone number on it would be put up.

Patrick Menges mentioned Article V was the last of the Financial Articles. Patrick Menges mentioned the Special Meeting would be held at the Dighton Middle School in the cafeteria at 7:00 P.M., Thursday, the 16th of February. Patrick Menges mentioned it would be the first use of the new voting list according to the new map; those persons who have been re-districted out of the District will be excluded.

Patrick Menges thanked the Finance Committee for coming and for giving their time. Also for their upcoming meeting.

Patrick Menges VOTED to adjourn at 7:55 P.M. seconded, Sue Medeiros all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol A. Stevens
District Clerk

Those in Attendance:

Patrick Menges
Sue Medeiros
Karen O'Connor
Peter Bleau
Michael Callahan

Charles Cestodio

Carol A. Stevens

Tina Bragga
