

**Dighton Water District**  
**192 Williams Street**  
**North Dighton, MA 02764**

**Edward Swartz**  
**Jeffery Cloonan**  
**Sue Medeiros**

***COMMISSIONERS***

*Carol A. Stevens*  
***TREASURER***

THE FOLLOWING MEETING WAS BOTH AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDED

Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at 6:00 P.M.  
Water District Headquarters

Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, Ed Swartz, called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Ed Swartz requested to start with item 9 New Business:

Meeting With Board of Selectman – Selectman Dean Cronin, Selectman Thomas Pires, Selectman Patrick Menges, Highway Department Superintendent Thomas Ferry – Discuss Consolidation Between The Highway Department and The Water District Regarding Backhoes and Trucks:

Clerk of the Board, Jeff Cloonan, explained his idea that the Highway Department and the Water District collaborate by have the Water District plow for the town and the Highway Department work with the District for backhoe services. Jeff explained that the District could plow during working hours when needed by the Highway Department, District employees would be paid by the District during normal working hours where by saving the town from using outside contractors at a higher rate. Jeff asked if they would be interested in this and in return the Highway Department could help with the Districts backhoe needs. Superintendent Olsen and Superintendent Ferry were asked to discuss further details and to report back to the District board at their September meeting.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS:**

Chairman Ed Swartz entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2014, 6:00 P.M. meeting. Sue, so moved, Jeff seconded the motion, all were in favor.

**READING OF CORRESPONDENCE:**

Chairman Swartz read a letter received from Hawthorne Development (attached). The board referred the letter to Tina to notify Mr. Garanito that funds (\$5,000.00 deposit) are held till the end of the project. If there is a balance at the end of the project funds are returned. Second letter read by Ed Swartz was a customer notifying the District that they were installing a swimming pool. Letter was received and placed on file.

#### FINANCIAL CONDITION:

Ed asked for a motion to approve the warrants, Sue so moved, Jeff seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

Sue made a motion to approve the transfers of July 8<sup>th</sup> as prepared by the District Accountant, Jeff seconded, and all were in favor.

#### SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT:

Superintendent Greg Olsen reported that 60 new digital meters have been installed in residential homes and he is waiting for 48 more meters due in next week. We'll be installing 2 new hydrants next week and a new service. Tank inspections will be done next week also. Hoisting class for everyone in the department as well as the Highway department will take place on the 30<sup>th</sup> at the District, we'll be splitting the bill with the Highway department. Rebuilt pumps and drives have been installed for our reclaim water in back of the plant and are back in service. In conjunction with the development on Pine Street, Stoney Ridge we are going to have to install an insertion valve in Pine Street, we are going to have to pay for that valve, take that money out of their connection fee, approximately \$9,000.00. This is the best way to shut down the least number of homes when they take a section of main out of service for a while. Greg reported he started running 2 shifts at the plant for the summertime months. The plant is designed for 1.2 million gallons per day, we are pushing capacity at 900,000 per day. Therefore if we bring on the 100 homes on Pine Street, 200 units on 138 and the 14 homes, we'll have to find more water. Sue questioned the new wells. Greg stated that the new wells only replaced old wells that we lost capacity, we are not ahead of the curve. Ed asked Greg to draft a letter before the next Zoning Board hearing with the affordable units so they're in communication, that they know that we are pushing our limits in summer months in regards to the amount of water we have. This is one of the reasons that units get reduced in 40B proposals, send to planning board also.

Greg continued his report with the district needs to do a hydrant replacement in conjunction with the Berkley bridge. The hydrant is a 1950 Ludlow so we are replacing with a new hydrant. We will supply the materials and the state will do the digging. Need to get materials to cover the main on Elm Street, looking into an aluminum wrap, covered with wood now.

Capital Outlay Meeting – Greg reported that the District needs to consider a generator and underground wiring for our Cedar Street wellfield. We have no emergency power at the wellfield. Ed questioned if a backup generator would be considered wellfield protection? Ed stated there is an environmental bond bill out there that is in the conference committee in the senate, one of the lines is wellfield protection. Greg continued with the Administrative Compliance Officer's report, Knotty Pine, Stoney Ridge still have not received tapping fee.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Letter to union to remove Superintendent from contract:

Ed stated the commissioners received an email from Attorney Gay in reference to a letter to the union to remove the superintendent from the contract as was agreed to as part of contract negotiations and a motion how he would like that worded. Ed read the motion as follows: The Board of Water Commissioners vote to authorize Attorney David Gay, district legal counsel, to notify the labor relations commission that the water commissioners and the Massachusetts Labors District Council on behalf of the Dighton Water District employees reached an agreement that removes from the union contract the position of Superintendent. The parties further negotiated the collective bargaining agreement covering July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016 and said agreement does not list the superintendent as a recognized member of the union. In addition a memorandum of agreement to this effect was signed by the commissioners and the union representatives on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 2013. Sue so moved, Jeff seconded, there was no discussion, all were in favor. Tina will inform Attorney Gay that the vote was taken, letter will be forwarded to the board for signatures.

Outstanding Appointment

Ed stated the board inadvertently forgot to do an appointment at our last meeting. We need to appoint Carol Stevens even though she is out on medical leave as the District Clerk/Treasurer. Ed asked for a motion to appoint Carol Stevens as District Clerk/Treasurer for Fiscal Year 15, Sue so moved, Jeff seconded, there was no discussion, motion passed.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Mr. Pacheco wanted to know if he has a problem with his water, who was going to come fix his water. Ed stated that the agreement is between Dighton and the Somerset Water District and the boundaries in the agreement were set up a long time ago, that whether you get the water from Dighton or you get the water from Somerset it is an agreement between the Dighton Water District and the Somerset Water District, not the homeowner and the Somerset Water District. It's the same thing that's been going on since the agreement was set. Mr. Pacheco stated that there are house that don't have water and don't get taxed. Mr. Pacheco stated he doesn't get the Dighton water but is being taxed. Ed explained that this is the agreement between the Dighton Water District and the Somerset Water District, you are a resident, you are within the Dighton Water District boundaries. You are billed because you are part of the Dighton Water District established by the Acts of 1950 and reestablished by the Acts of 2012. You are still part of the Water District. Mr. Pacheco also questioned his property on Aubrey Lane which he pays the Water District Taxes. He stated there is a barrier and a tree blocking the road, how would they put out a fire. The board told Mr. Pacheco he would have to question the town.

Jeff Cloonan stated he would like to make a bylaw change, will discuss at next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ed stated the board will be going into executive session and not returning to open session.

Next regular meeting will be in September, there will be no August meeting.

Ed asked if there is a motion to go into executive session with Attorney Holgerson regarding possible litigation under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21 and also some updates on labor related issues, Sue so moved, Jeff seconded.

Roll call, Sue Medeiros – yes, Jeffrey Cloonan – yes, Ed Swartz – yes.

7:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Bragga  
Acting District Clerk

Those in Attendance:

Edward Swartz  
Jeffrey Cloonan  
Sue Medeiros  
Thomas Pires  
Patrick Menges  
Dean Cronin  
Everett Pacheco

Greg Olsen  
Tina Bragga  
Jim Ready  
Dorian Jefferson  
Thomas Ferry  
Attorney Holgerson

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Chairman Ed Swartz

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Clerk Jeff Cloonan

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Commissioner Sue Medeiros