

Tilton Northfield Water District
Commissioner's Meeting
14 Academy Street, Tilton, NH 03276
Monday, March 8, 2021
Minutes

In Attendance: Commissioner Chair Sean Chandler, Commissioner Scott Davis, Commissioner Arthur Demass, Superintendent John Chase, Clerk Michele Corey

At 5:00 p.m. the Tilton Northfield Fire District Commissioners and the Fire Chief joined the meeting: Commissioner Paul Auger, Commissioner John Cilley, Commissioner Eric Pyra and Chief Michael Sitar

Call to Order:

Chair Chandler called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Public Comment

None

Review of Minutes:

The Commissioners reviewed February 8, 2021 meeting minutes. **Commissioner Davis motioned, seconded by Commissioner Demass to accept the minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report:

The Commissioners reviewed the February 2021 Treasurer's Report. **Commissioner Davis motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Commissioner Demass. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Superintendent's Report (John Chase):

Well #1 pump may be starting to fail again. It keeps shutting off and restarting. The Rep from the pump company came by and said it all looked good. Rene' said he will take a look at it.

New Manganese drinking water standard for 2022 has been issued. Commissioner Davis thought there may be money in the newest stimulus package for water/sewer infrastructure. Commissioner Davis recommended we reach out to our House or Senate Representatives to see if there is anything.

Late Fees:

The Commissioners reviewed the accounts with complaints regarding the late fees.

Commissioner Davis motioned to waive the \$30.00 late fee on Account 1121. Seconded by Commissioner Demass. All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Davis motioned to waive the \$30.00 late fee on Account 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Chandler. All in favor. Motion carried.

Account 1118-Very upset regarding the late charge. Customer is paying the bill for a parent but is also on a limited income and only receives funds at a certain time of the month which is after the bill due date. Customer did mail in a post-dated check for the late fee. A call was made to the customer to discuss. She was upset regarding receiving the late fee and does not feel her water should be turned off. She was advised of the reason the late notices were instituted and what the process would be to avoid it. If she is having difficulty paying her account, she could contact the office to set up a payment plan and then no late charge would be added. She agreed that in the future she would call the office if there was a problem. Commissioner Davis advised her since this is the first time and she is willing to work with them in the future, the Water District would credit her the \$30.00 late fee. She agreed that was a good solution.

Commissioner Davis motioned to credit the \$30.00 late fee to Account 1118. Seconded by Commissioner Demass. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Tilton-Northfield Fire District-Water Agreement:

Chief Sitar would like the Fire District Commissioners and the Water District Commissioners to get together to come up with an agreement for water fees. The agreement has been passed back and forth between the two parties. The Fire District Budget Committee zeroed out the amount for water in the budget so they had to put this on as a warrant article. They used the prior contract amount for the warrant article. Even if the parties agree to terms at this meeting, because it was not included in the budget, it still has to go before the town as a warrant article.

Superintendent Chase stated that the last agreement that was sent over from the Fire District is not something he could recommend the Water Commissioners sign. This is partly due to the language in the agreement regarding use of the Park Street Station Hydrant for training at the sole discretion of the fire department. There was discussion about the possibility of using the hydrants for training in coordination with the hydrant flushing schedule. Commissioner Davis also noted that there are other factors that go into the hydrant flushing, including water levels in the tanks. Superintendent Chase indicated that we could look at April and October to see if something could be coordinated, but could not do this more than twice a year.

Fire Commissioner Cilley inquired why the price had changed from the initial agreement that was sent by the Water District. Commissioner Davis advised when they received the agreement back, it was not the same agreement that they had in the past. The Fire District's lawyers had added in some additional items, for example use of the hydrant, purchase of a pressurized tanker. Therefore, the Water District Commissioners modified their proposal.

Chief Sitar stated that they have applied for a grant for a pressurized tank but does not have an answer on it yet. The Water Commissioners advised they would not be able to sign on to any agreement that includes them purchasing a pressurized tank for another entity.

All parties agreed that they want to work something out.

Commissioner Davis felt that they would be able to agree to the latest proposal if numbers five (5), six (6) and seven (7) were removed. That would include the section on use of the Park St. Station hydrant, water discoloration and purchase of a pressurized water tank.

There was discussion about the possibility of using the hydrant at Nickerson Industrial Park. Superintendent Chase will review to determine if this will work.

Commissioner Davis motioned to proceed with the agreement received by the Tilton Northfield Water District from the Tilton Northfield Fire District on February 8, 2021, with the removal of item number five (5) Use of the Park Street Station Hydrant, in its entirety; item number six (6) Water Discoloration, in its entirety; item number seven (7) regarding purchasing of a pressurized water tank, in its entirety. The rate proposed will remain the same, \$125,988.48 annually, to be broken out in four (4) quarterly installments of \$31,497.12, as it has been for the last ten years. Seconded by Commissioner Demass. All in favor. Motion carried.

All of the Commissioners from both the Water District and the Fire District initialed the changes and signed the agreement.

Next meeting:

Monday, May 10, 2021 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

With nothing further, **at 6:35 p.m. the meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Corey, District Clerk