

PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD

The 419th meeting of the Pawtucket Water Supply Board met on February 20th, 2024 at 5:00 PM

William Masuck called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

PWSB Members Present

William Masuck, Chairperson – present

James Bradford, Vice Chairperson – present

Thomas Hodge – present

Mike Araujo – present

Mark Theroux – present

Mark Stankiewicz - present

PWSB Staff Present

James DeCelles - Chief Engineer

Russel Houde – Assistant Chief Engineer

Chris Collins – Source Water Manager

Katie Peters – Executive Project Manager

Public Attendees

None

4. Consent Agenda

Brief discussion regarding the status of the ongoing lead regulations. PWSB will have the required public lead service line map up on the website and available to the public in October 2024, per EPA regulations. Additionally, the Rawson Pond dam failure was discussed. It was confirmed that the dam failure did not affect water quality in the PWSB system. Jim DeCelles has been in contact with the head of the DPW in Cumberland to ensure that any construction of a new or temporary dam would not affect the flow of the Abbot Run Reservoir.

A motion to approve Consent Agenda was made by Tom Hodge and seconded by James Bradford.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge - Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux – Yes

Mark Stankiewicz - Yes

APPROVED

5A. Executive Session - Veolia Contract Extension - Investment of Public Funds pursuant to RIGL s. 42-46-5 (a)(7).

The board decided not to enter into Executive Session for their discussion of agenda item 6B.

New Business:

6B. Veolia Contract Extension

The current 20-year service agreement with Veolia for contract operations of the PWSB water treatment facility is set to expire on February 15, 2024. CDM has begun the process of drafting a new RFP for contract operations, but PWSB estimates that the entire procurement process will take us into August 2024. Based on this timeline, PWSB has requested and received a proposal from Veolia to operate the plant until the procurement process is complete and a new contract is in place.

The proposal from Veolia is for an initial term of 6 months with provisions for another 60-day extension if required. Terms of the contract extension will include:

- monthly operating cost of \$277,193.78
- cap on Veolia responsibility for significant repair and replacement costs of \$20,000 per event
- any costs associated with required carbon replacement will be a direct pass through to the PWSB.

A motion that the PWSB recommend the Pawtucket Purchasing Board authorize the PWSB to sign a 6-month extension with Veolia for water treatment facility contract operations was made by James Bradford and seconded by Tom Hodge.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford -- Yes

Thomas Hodge - Yes

Mike Araujo -- Yes

Mark Theroux -- Yes

Mark Stankiewicz - Yes

APPROVED

6A. Solitude Lake Management Agreement

PWSB and Veolia believe that enhanced monitoring and surface chemical treatment of the Happy Hollow and Robin Hollow reservoirs will improve the finished water quality with respect to taste and odor compounds experienced between the months of April and September. PWSB believes that the chemical treatment would be beneficial to the life of the carbon in the filters at the treatment plant.

The cost for the monitoring will not exceed \$2,170/month for monitoring and \$3,366.00 per application of treatment chemical. In total, PWSB would expect to utilize the monitoring services for six months, between April and September and apply bi-monthly treatments, between April and September at a total cost, including permitting of \$53,842.00.

A motion that the PWSB recommend the Pawtucket Purchasing Board approve a contract with Veolia for Reservoir Monitoring and Treatment services was made by Tom Hodge and seconded by James Bradford.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford -- Yes

Thomas Hodge - Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux – Yes

Mark Stankiewicz - Yes

APPROVED

6C. Homeowner Safety Valve Contract Extension

In January 2014, the PWSB executed a five-year contract with the Homeowner Safety Valve Company to provide the necessary service associated with a "Residential Customer Water Line Protection Program". Section 6 of that agreement provided the opportunity for one additional five-year term upon agreement of both parties, which was requested and approved in March 2019. The PWSB has begun the process of drafting a new RFP for a "Residential Customer Water Line Protection Program" but we estimate that the entire procurement process will take us into Summer 2024.

The proposal from Homeowner Safety Valve is for an initial term of 6 months with provisions for another six-month extension if required.

Terms of the contract extension will include:

- PWSB agrees to provide Homeowner Safety Valve with an updated customer list
- Two levels of protection plans offered to customers:
 - o Annual cost of \$68.00 per customer which provides a \$10,000 annual and \$6,000 per incident repair cap
 - o Annual cost of \$74.88 per customer which provides a \$15,000 annual and \$6,000 per incident repair cap
- Customer enrollment shall be for a term of one year, renewable annually for further one-year terms.
- Homeowner Safety Valve will contract with and receive payment directly from each customer enrolled in the planner Safety Valve Contract Extension

Motion to authorize a six-month extension of the "Residential Customer Water Line Protection Program Services" contract with Homeowner Safety Valve Company was made by Mike Araujo and seconded by James Bradford.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge - Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux – Yes

Mark Stankiewicz - Yes

APPROVED

6D.a Bill Adjustment Request - 170 Power Road, Pawtucket

The customer, Ms. Robin Paola, is requesting to be removed from the tax lien sale. She and her husband have cancer. The account was placed on tax lien sale in January, 2024. The property changed ownership on or about January 11, 2024 from her parents who have passed away. She wants to be given a payment plan. There was a discussion among board members as to who actually owned the property and who actually resided there. It was noted that the PWSB has offered interested free payments plans in the past to customers, one a case-by-case basis. Jim DeCelles confirmed that the customer, Robin Paola, is willing and ready to pay down the water lien on a payment plan.

A motion to authorize a 1-year, interest free payment plan and removal from the upcoming May 2024 tax sale was made by Mark Stankiewicz and seconded by James Bradford.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Abstained (Lack of Sufficient Information)

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux – Yes

Mark Stankiewicz - Yes

APPROVED

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Certified by PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD, recorded by kp

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Masuck".

William Masuck, Chairperson