

PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD

The 405th meeting of the Pawtucket Water Supply Board met on August 17th, 2022 at 12:00 PM

William Masuck called the meeting to order at 11:59 PM.

PWSB Members Present

William Masuck – present

James Bradford – not present

Thomas Hodge - present

Mike Araujo – present

Mark Theroux - present

PWSB Staff Present

James DeCelles - Chief Engineer

Russell Houde – Assistant Chief Engineer

Robert Benson – CFO

Joe Keough – Attorney

Katie Peters – Executive Assistant

Public Attendees – None

4. Consent Agenda

It was discussed that despite the current drought conditions, the PWSB reservoirs are in good shape, at 80% capacity. Jim DeCelles announced the hiring of the new Water Engineering Manager, Steve Soito. Also discussed was the rehab of the 5MG water tank at 85 Branch St. Work is set to begin on September 19th, 2022 and is estimated to take 2.5 months. The tank will be cleaned both inside and outside, and the outside will get painted.

A motion to approve Consent Agenda was made by Thomas Hodge and seconded by Mike Araujo.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

APPROVED

New Business:

5A. Watershed Property Purchase Contribution

The Board was asked to authorize a contribution of \$180,000 dollars towards the total purchase price of \$830,000 for two lots; AP60 L71 and AP60 L69 owned by Joseph and Amy Cracco and totaling 84 acres.

A total of 31 acres of freshwater wetlands are located on the two parcels and runoff from these parcels contributes flow to Catamint Brook and Ash Swamp Brook, both tributaries to Arnolds Mills Reservoir. A preliminary land development plan by DiPrete Engineering calculated 13 lots for the construction of single-family homes.

The RIDEM had the two parcels appraised in 2021 at a value of \$880,000. The Cracco's have agreed to a reduced sale price of \$830,000. The Cumberland Land Trust would take ownership of the property using a combination of funding sources; RIDEM \$400,000, Town of Cumberland \$175,000, PWSB \$180,000 and the Cumberland Land Trust \$75,000. A conservation easement would be placed on the two parcels and the PWSB would retain the right of first refusal. The \$180,000 contribution from the PWSB would come from the Land Acquisition Fund which has a current balance of \$1.3 million.

A motion to approve this contribution was made by Thomas Hodge and seconded by Mark Theroux.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

APPROVED

Next scheduled meeting will be on September 13th, 2022.

A motion to adjourn was made by Thomas Hodge and seconded by Mike Araujo.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

APPROVED

Meeting adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Certified by PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD, recorded by kp



William Masuck, Chairperson