

## PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD

The 412<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Pawtucket Water Supply Board met on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:00 PM

William Masuck called the meeting to order at 5:03 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

Russ Houde - Assistant Chief Engineer

Christopher Collins – Source Water Manager

Michael Lecours - CFO

Robert Benson – former CFO

Katie Peters – Executive Assistant

**Public Attendees** – None

### **4. Consent Agenda**

General discussion about the delay in projects due to the Rhode Island Department of Health not allowing the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank to issue funding to multiple organizations, PWSB included. Jim says he would be reaching out to legislatures if that is what would help move the process forward. An updated on Synagro and the sludge was given, wherein Synagro is supposed to complete the work within 90 days.

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

**Roll Call Taken:**

William Masuck – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

**APPROVED**

**New Business:**

**6B. Reservoir Management Program**

The PWSB recommended that Board approve for the PWSB to go to the Pawtucket Purchasing Board approve a contract with Veolia for Reservoir Monitoring and Treatment services. The cost for the monitoring will not exceed \$1,829/month for monitoring and \$5,127.00 per application of treatment services. In total, we would expect to utilize the monitoring services for six months, between April and September and apply four chemical treatments, June through September at a total cost of \$31,482.00. 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 we experience between the months of April and September. PWSB also believes that the chemical treatment would be beneficial to the life of the carbon in the filters at the treatment plant.

A motion to approve was made by Mark Theroux and seconded by Mike Araujo.

**Roll Call Taken:**

William Masuck – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

**APPROVED**

**6C. Tax Sale**

Chief Engineer Jim DeCelles proposed a path forward with regards to resuming Tax Sales. He suggested that PWSB spend the summer issuing shutoff/collection notices to delinquent residents

before issuing a Tax Sale list in fall 2023. Since the collection worked well last summer, PWSB feels it would be beneficial to allow delinquent customers time to pay their bill or get a payment plan set up before Tax Sales resume. The PWSB does not want to jump back into Tax Sales without another summer of collection. The Tax Sale would take place in early 2024.

**6D.a. Bill Adjustment Request – 356 Mendon Rd, Cumberland**

Mr. Anil Dindi sent a letter to the board requesting relief from a high water bill. A toilet valve leak began at Mr. Dindi's property on Mendon Road in September 2022 which was discovered and repaired sometime in December 2022.

PWSB recommends that the Board deny Mr. Dindi's request for relief for the high bill, in accordance with the Pawtucket Water policy.

Motion to deny the bill adjustment was made by Mike Araujo and seconded by Thomas Hodge.

**Roll Call Taken:**

William Masuck – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

**APPROVED**

**5A. Executive Session**

A motion was made by Thomas Hodge and seconded by Mike Araujo to go into Executive Session to discuss Investment of Public Funds pursuant to RIGL s.42-46-5 (a)(7) and Personnel pursuant to RIGL s.42-46-5 (a)(1).

**Roll Call Taken:**

William Masuck – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

**APPROVED**

Executive session started at 5:35 PM.

A motion was made by Mike Araujo and seconded by Mark Theroux to go out of executive session.

**Roll Call Taken:**

William Masuck – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

**APPROVED**

Regular session resumed at 5:53 PM.

A motion was made Thomas Hodge and seconded by Mark Theroux to seal the executive session minutes.

**Roll Call Taken:**

William Masuck – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

**APPROVED**

**6A. Executive Session**

A motion to table discussion regarding Chief Engineer Jim DeCelle's contract was made, until Joe Keough provides a salary comparison to the board was made by Mike Araujo and seconded by Mark Theroux.

**Roll Call Taken:**

William Masuck – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

**APPROVED**

Next scheduled meeting will be on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Araujo and seconded by Mark Theroux.

**Roll Call Taken:**

William Masuck – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

**APPROVED**

Meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Certified by PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD, recorded by kp

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Masuck".

William Masuck, Chairperson