

Cromwell Fire District

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FIRE DISTRICT OFFICE
WATER DIVISION

FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Water Operations Committee

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

5:30 PM

1 West Street
Cromwell, CT

Present: Commissioners Roger Rukowicz (Chairman), Robert Donohue and Mertie Terry. Also attending were Executive Director Julius Neto, Operations Director S. William Jarzavek, Water Foreman Joseph Palmieri. Commissioner Allan Spotts was absent.

- I. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM, by Chairman Rukowicz.
- II. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Donohue and unanimously approved to accept the Agenda as submitted.
- III. Public Comment. The Executive Director identified himself as part of the public. Julius Neto, 12 Cannata Drive. He discussed the water main break at Catherine Street and West Street. He was driving by and observed the Water Department staff fully engaged in resolving a serious water main break. In less than 5 hours they were able to get the appropriate people involved to rectify the situation including, "Call Before You Dig." All the utilities needed to be identified. The slowest part of the process was the "Call Before You Dig" personnel. The operation was handled very efficiently after that point. As the Executive Director Mr. Neto, commended the Water Department staff. They all performed their jobs safely, and there was great teamwork involved. He has learned a lot about what it takes to handle these types of situations. A great job was done by all involved.
- IV. Old Business
 - A. Maintenance Report Update. Copies of the report were available for committee members. The report covered the time period April 25, 2018 to January 11, 2019. There are already 16 entries of what the mechanic has done. The Report does not include any Water Department vehicles because the system does not have the capabilities to handle that data. Mr. Palmieri distributed some data from the Water Department that is in Red Alert. This system was implemented in 2011. No one knows why they had stopped using the system. It is presumed that there were issues at that time with the data entry, and no one knew how to fix it. The Chairman is confident that by the time of the next quarterly meeting of the Committee all the issues will be worked out, and water vehicles will be included in the report. The data is helpful in identifying which vehicle was worked on, the cost of parts, what was done and what needs to be done at the next service check. The Chairman would like to add another category to the report which is how

much time was taken to perform the service or repair. Gas mileage would also be useful data.

- B. Municipal Plates. The Chairman wanted to find out if this would be something the District should be pursuing. It is unclear if anyone else uses municipal plates. Mr. Jarzavek noted that it does not matter if the District uses municipal plates or not. They do not pay for them either way. The District is not charged a fee. All water vehicles have been registered to the 1 West Street address, and renewals are sent there as well. The Operations Director signs off on them, and they are returned to the DMV. If municipal plates are used, there are guidelines that need to be followed. Since there is no fee charged to the District either way, it was felt that it would be easier to continue with past practice with District vehicle registrations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Terry, seconded by Commissioner Donohue and unanimously approved to withdraw the consideration of obtaining municipal plates for the Water Department.

- C. TPC Well Update. Mr. Jarzavek stated that the ball is in their court. If and when they come back to the District with a proposal, they will be responsible for doing all the engineering on it and getting it approved by the State. They will then need to present something to the Water Operations Committee.

V. New Business

- A. Tour of Middletown Water Plant by Water Operations Committee. Commissioner Donohue explained that Guy Russo had suggested showing the Committee the Middletown Water Plant so that they could understand the VFD project in Cromwell. Middletown has already gone through the process when Mr. Russo was the Water Director there. It would be a preview of what Cromwell is about to undertake. It was noted that Middletown's new pumping station will not be ready until Spring. If the Committee wanted to see Middletown's Water Plant, Mr. Jarzavek could arrange something. Mr. Neto suggested the Committee look at the District's infrastructure to get an idea of what the Cromwell water process is. Middletown would be better to tour once the weather breaks. The Committee members were interested in touring the District water facilities. Commissioners Terry, Donohue and Spotts are available during the days. They will be arranging something with Mr. Jarzavek.

- VI. Commissioners' Comments. There were no comments to report.

- VII. Adjournment. There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Donohue, seconded by Commissioner Terry and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger Rukowicz, Chairman

Nancy Deegan
Recording Secretary
2-26-19