

**North Branch Fire District #1
78 Dorr Fitch Road
West Dover, VT. 05356**

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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the North Branch Fire District #1, Prudential Committee, August 12, 2015.

This Meeting, having been duly warned, was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman, Hobart Terhune.

Members Present: Thomas Ferrazza, Hobie Terhune, Cyndee Frere and Daniel Facilla.

Absent: Edward Barber.

Also Present: Robert LeBlond, David Moulton, Laurie Newton, Bart Howes, Rebecca Snow and Linda Holland.

Public Comment: None.

Mount Snow/David Moulton, Laurie Newton & Robert LeBlond: Mount Snow came before the Committee to discuss the possibility of using floor drains in the Carinthia expansion project, specifically in the kitchens and bathrooms. Terhune asked if the lines could be “day lighted”. Moulton responded “not necessarily”. Howes stated that floor drains cannot drain to the treatment plant; it is a condition of the Fire District’s discharge permit. LeBlond handed the Committee a report indicating the results of the discharge for the maintenance garage. In the future, Mount Snow would like the Committee to consider taking this water as well into the treatment facility. Howes and Moulton will do more research with the State, regarding what is or is not permitted. Mount Snow will come before the Committee again on September 9, 2015.

Letters: A letter dated August 12, 2015 from Ed Floyd to John Akielaszek. (See Chief Operator’s Report).

Dated July 28, 2015 a letter from Holland to Mr. & Mrs. Mark Montgomery regarding construction at 50 Dorr Fitch Road. (DO017) Holland states that she has been informed that the Montgomery’s plan to construct a garage with an upstairs apartment and connect it to the municipal sewer system. Holland enclosed a gallonage application for the owner’s convenience and mailed the letter Certified.

Dated 6/1/15 the pre-buy contract with Synergy Gas. Profax Energy and Suburban Propane’s quote was \$2.90 per gallon. Cota and Cota quoted \$1.91 per gallon and Synergy Gas is \$1.890 per gallon.

Dated July 15, 2015 a letter from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Watershed Management Division, stating that in accordance with 10 VSA Section 6605(a), this letter is an approval of the North Branch Fire District #1 Sludge Management Plan, submitted by the Fire District in July 2015.

Dated July 16, 2015 via E-mail, a response from Sarah Jarvis, Staff Attorney at VLCT stating “a ticket for a municipal ordinance violation can be served in person or by mail. The law does not require it, but we recommend certified mail, return receipt requested”. This was in answer to Holland’s inquiry regarding violation tickets.

Dated July 16, 2015 via E-mail, a response from Robert M. Fisher, Esq. with regards to Peaks #5. Bottom line is that Fisher does not see that the legal case for collection is all that strong given the notice form that was sent to the buyer and seller. Facilla would like Holland to fax a copy of the “Notice of Liens” to Fisher for his review. The notice does state that there is no usage history-no meter.

Notice from Lincoln National Life Insurance Company stating they have approved a payment of \$1,170.00 to the beneficiary.

Minutes: Ferrazza moved to approve the Minutes of July 8th. and July 30, 2015 as submitted. Seconded by Facilla. Passed unanimously.

Chief Operator’s Report: Howes submitted a written report stating the status of the treatment facility on a daily basis for the month of July.

Howes discussed the letter from Ed Floyd to John Akielaszek regarding the proposed changes to the effluent disposal. Once Mr. Akielaszek has reviewed the letter, Howes and Floyd will meet with him to get his approval. The letter proposes that the plant will make changes every six months first, to lessen the amount of doses and later increase the total gallons discharged. Each change will require all the data to be compiled and a meeting with Mr. Akielaszek. Best case scenario is that by the summer of 2017 we can discharge 318,150.

Howes has spoken with the Whitehall, NY wastewater treatment facility as well as the Granville, NY facility regarding Biosolids removal. Whitehall currently uses theirs year round, but it is problematic and will freeze during the winter. Facilla inquired about using solar drying beds and utilizing hot water to warm the green house. Howes will investigate this idea. Both the Whitehall and Granville plant stated the best option at this time is a mechanical dewatering system. Howes has been compiling information in regards to the different types and will give the Committee a recommendation this winter. Some of the distributors offer a “lease to own” option that eliminates the single lump sum payment allowing for an easier purchase.

Howes created two RFP’s for the construction of buildings over two tanks and another RFP to rebuild the Negus pump station next year. One structure is over the head works

and screening unit and the other is over the UV and chlorine contact tank. Without chlorine, the tank grows algae. Both tanks had a continual freezing problem last year.

Ferrazza moved to have Howes send out the three Requests for Proposals. Seconded by Frere. Passed unanimously.

Howes was concerned about a garage under construction that may or may not have an apartment above it. Holland has sent a “Certified Letter” to the owner asking them to fill-out an enclosed application if any water is supplied to the garage. Due to conflicting information, this building will be kept under observation and inspected by either the Zoning Administrator or North Branch Fire District after completion.

Treasurer’s Report: Ferrazza moved to approve the monthly bills totaling \$42,321.77. Seconded by Frere. Passed unanimously.

Snow reported that the current prudent reserve is \$483,111.51.

The Committee reviewed the Income, Capital and Operational Budgets. Facilla moved to approve this report from the Treasurer. Seconded by Ferrazza. Passed unanimously.

Facilla would like to see a custom report for Operations, stating what was spent and what is left in the budget for Operations only.

Executive Session/Personnel: Ferrazza moved to go into Executive Session at 2:15 p.m. to discuss personnel. Seconded by Frere. Passed unanimously. Ferrazza moved to come out of Executive Session at 4:10 p.m. Seconded by Frere. Passed unanimously. Linda Holland is directed to hire the person as discussed and to make the proper inquiries as discussed.

Solar Proposal: Tabled until September 9, 2015

Bedroom/Sleeping Space Enforcement: Tabled until September 9, 2015.

Hire an Attorney for the Delinquent Tax Sale: Terhune moved to hire Robert Fisher, Esq. for the Fire District’s fall tax sale. Seconded by Ferrazza. Passed unanimously.

Other Business: None.

Old Business: None.

Terhune adjourned the meeting 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Linda L. Holland,
Administrative Manager

cc: H. Terhune, D. Facilla, E. Barber, E. Floyd, T. Ferrazza, Cyndee Frere, Bart Howes, Ed Floyd, Joe Mahon, Amiee Pritcher, Arlene Palmiter, Donald Albano, Linda Anelli, Adam Levine, Jeannie Flanagan, Deerfield Valley News and the Brattleboro Reformer.

Posted: North Branch Fire District #1, Wastewater Treatment Facility & Administrations Building. Dover Town Office.