

**Joint Meeting of the Water & Sewer Commission  
And the Electric Utility Commission  
Meeting Minutes, October 5, 2020**

**Roll Call:** Steve Fitzhugh, Dennis Donahue, John Stevens, Charlie Morse. Others present: Town Manager Jeff Schulz, Utility Superintendent Patrick Demasi, Mr. Robert Doyon. The meeting started at 6:30 PM.

**Approval of Minutes from the September 14, 2020 Meeting**

Motion by Dennis Donahue, seconded by Charlie Morse, to approve the minutes of September 14. **Motion passed 4-0.**

**Meeting of the Electric Commission**

**Solar Project Updates**

Steve Fitzhugh gave an update on the concept of a solar project on Norwich property located near the Town wellfield noting that the required feasibility study is estimated to cost at least \$5,000. Steve added the Town will need to first ensure that it has control of the property prior to initiating the Study. Norwich states that it currently has no interest in developing a solar project on the property, however, Norwich is interested in completing a land exchange for this property. A proposed solar project on this property gives the Town an additional land buffer for the Town's wellfield and would give the Town additional credits towards the VT Tier 3 renewable energy requirements. The next steps in the process is ensure that the Town has access to and control of the property. Charlie Morse asked which property the Town would exchange for the Norwich property. Steve noted that Norwich is interested in the Town parcel along South Main Street that contains the Gold Star monument. Charlie responded that that is a logical exchange, but could be an emotional issue for several property owners in the area that have a historical connection to that property.

**Other Business**

Steve stated that the Public Utility Commission approved a special agreement to allow NED to wheel GMP power on NED lines to serve GMP residents in the areas of West Hill and above in Northfield. At this time, NED is working with GMP on metering issues and has billed GMP for the first year of the agreement.

Steve noted that NED has thus far received \$4,800 from the State to cover past due electric bills and that two NED customers have applied for the funds.

Steve also noted that NED needs to update the battery bank at the King Street sub-station to support loads in general and related to the transfer trip issue for current and proposed renewable energy project. GMP has the completed the project

calculations and we concur with the numbers. NED now needs to obtain price quotes. Charlie asked about the specific items related to the battery bank and Steve noted that the needed items include reclosures, motors, operation switches and electronics.

### **Meeting of Water and Sewer Commission**

#### **Request to Connect to Municipal Sewer – 560 Doyon Road**

Jeff Schulz stated that the owner of the property at 560 Doyon Road (Mr. Doyon) is proposing to connect his resident to the municipal sewer located within Doyon Road. Mr. Doyon proposes to run a 1½ inch sewer line service connection from his property to an existing manhole within the town right of way. Jeff noted that he and Patrick have no concerns with the proposal. Mr. Doyon discussed his proposal noting that he has been planning the connection for several years and that the line will be on private property and within the right of way.

**Motion** by Charlie Morse, second by Dennis Donahue to approve Mr. Doyon's application to connect to the municipal sewer. **Motion passed 4-0.**

### **Other Business**

Mr. Doyon noted that approximately seven years ago the Methodist Church connected its sewer to the municipal system and at the same time had proposed to connect a stormwater line to drain several low areas to the municipal stormwater system on Central Street. Mr. Doyon asked why the project was not connected to the Town's stormwater system. Charlie Morse stated that if the Town committed to connecting the storm line to the municipal system it should be completed. The Commission recommended that Mr. Doyon follow-up with the Town Manager.

Motion by Charlie Morse, second by Steve Fitzhugh to adjourn the Joint Meeting of the Electric Commission and the Water/Sewer Commission. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Jeff Schulz, Town Manager