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MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2018

REHOBOTH WATER COMMISSION

***CALL TO ORDER***

A meeting of the Rehoboth Water Commission was held at Dunkin Donuts, 227 Winthrop Street, on Monday, July 16, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

***ATTENDEES***

Members: Joseph Nunes, Thomas Nicholson, Edwin Ballard, Patricia Vadnais and Kathleen Conti

***GUEST***

John Hermance

***MINUTES***

Motion: Tish Vadnais made a motion to approve the minutes of May 14, 2015

Motion 2nd: Thomas Nicholson

***RACHEL SMITH***

Rachel Smith, of the Board of Health and the Agricultural Commission held a discussion regarding EPA Watershed Project. In contact with Trish Garagan, EPA Palmer River Water Quality is looking for people to work with her. Karl Drowne, Health Agent and Rachel Smith, Board of Health and Agricultural Commission will be Trish Garagan’s contact. Rachel also discussed grants, working with the farmers and what they would find useful regarding water quality and water testing regarding contamination of Palmer River. Testing for next year and will do additional samples, checking contamination, i.e. animal or human contamination.

Ted Ballard – We need to get someone from the Agricultural Commission involved. EPA is handling on their own with a lot of organizations involved. Called the Palmer River Initiative.

Tish Vadnais volunteered to be the liaison for the Water Commission to the Palmer River Water Shed Project. Tish said that Ian Ward of the MA Conservation District, is a great source to work with local agriculture.

Motion: Joseph Nunes made a motion to have Tish Vadnais to be the Water Commission Liaison to the Palmer River Water Shed Project.

Motion 2nd: Edwin Ballard

Ted Ballard – asked Rachel Smith about information sheet regarding fracing procedures. Tom Nicholson is working on it.

***ANAWAN SCHOOL PROJECT***

Tish Vadnais – Selectman Jim Muri spoke to Tish about Womens Development Corp working with Abutters regarding where to place the well on the Anawan School Project.

Ted Ballard – working with Planning Board on Ground Water Protection Map, proposing to recognize protection from unauthorized chemicals. Ted wants to update the Water Resource Protection map to include the whole town. Currently it only includes parts of town, terms on EPA Recharge.

Joseph Nunes – Who will do this. William Costa and Edward Bertozzi of the Planning board are working with SRPEDD on map. There will be two maps – all water resources and update of the current Water Resource Protection map. This modification must be presented to the Town Meeting as a by-law change. The Planning Board are rewriting the by-laws and redoing the map. The next meeting of the Planning Board is scheduled for July 25, 20108 at the Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. A date has not yet been set for the Planning Board to present this to Town Meeting.

Jack Hermance will email map to the committee.

Ted Ballard – Discussed water coming from town property, exchange of assets. Asked that we get legal opinion regarding water assets from through the Board of Selectmen. This will require a Town Meeting vote to transfer release of water. No response to our questions. Water Commission to sign lease with transfer and water.

Tish Vadnais will ask Selectmen regarding legal opinion. Do we need permission? Tish will have Selectman Skip Vadnais talk to Joe Nunes. Tish Vadnais will discuss with Skip the issue of no information being received by the ZBA, i.e. well issue.

***PLAIN STREET AND SOLAR PANELS***

Tish Vadnais – Plain Street issued – tabled. Solar Panels on Route 44 (behind Post Office) are not in protected. At this point the Water Commission has no comment.

***DISCUSSION***

Ted Ballard informed the Committee of problems he is having with his cell phone. He hopes to have it resolved tomorrow.

***ADJOURNMENT***

Motion: Tom Nicholson made a motion to adjourn at 8:04 p.m.

Motion 2nd: Tish Vadnais

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen J. Conti

Rehoboth Water Commissioner

Secretary