



Minutes of the December 17, 2024 monthly meeting of the commissioners of the CHWP.

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by chair Richard Bairam

Roll Call conducted by Chair Richard "Turk" Bairam

Present: Richard Bairam, Linda Bonney - Treasurer, Ray Bonney, Joan McDonald, Mark Bourque, Karen Nadeau - Clerk, Chris Culberson – Superintendent, Denise Cumings - Compliance/Bookkeeper, Attorney BJ Branch.

Excused: None

Motion by Mark Bourque and seconded Ray Bonney to approve the meeting minutes of November 19, 2024 as presented, all in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer Reports:

Business checking account	\$973,276.41
Business Credit Card account	\$1,115.15
Past Due Accounts	\$35,349.88 (149 Accounts)
Open Balance Report	\$38,811.13 (169 Accounts)

A/P manifests were reviewed and approved by the commissioners for the amount of \$41,000.69 dated 12/04/2024, A/P Manifest for \$15,097.82 dated 12/17/2024. Money Transfer \$1,000.00 dated 12/2/2024. Trust Fund Transfer in the amount of \$142,500.00 dated 12/17/2024, as per the warrant articles that were approved at the March Annual Meeting. Claire Lyons, Trustee, will come in on 12/18/24 to sign the Fidelity Investment deposit slip. A copy of the warrant, check stub, and trust fund details signed by Claire Lyons as Trustee of the Trusts will be sent to Christine Tewksbury, Director of Finance for the Town of Hooksett, so she knows what has been deposited into the Town's Trust Funds.

Payroll manifests for payroll weeks 11/10/2024 thru 12/07/2024 were also reviewed and signed by the commissioners.

Profit and loss statement: January through November we did not exceed our planned expenditures, which is a positive outcome. We are currently under budget and continue to manage our spending effectively.

Motion by Ray Bonney and seconded by Joan McDonald to accept the treasurers report as presented; all in favor.

Correspondence:

A brief discussion regarding The American Water Works Association (AWWA) is challenging a new rule from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) called the *Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)*. This rule requires water utilities to replace all lead pipes (and some galvanized pipes) within 10 years of a set compliance date.

Why AWWA is Concerned:

- The AWWA supports the goal of removing lead pipes but believes the timeline to replace them is unrealistic and too costly for many water systems.
- The rule assumes that if a water utility can physically access a lead pipe on private property, the utility has “control” over that pipe.
  - However, the Safe Drinking Water Act says “access” doesn’t mean “control.”
  - By treating access and control as the same thing, the rule places responsibility on water utilities for pipes on private property—areas they don’t necessarily have the authority to address.
- This could set a precedent where water utilities are made responsible for private property issues, which needs careful consideration.

Legal Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- Lead and Copper Rule changes for 2023 and the grant were discussed as part of the correspondence with the American Water Works Association (AWWA) challenging the ruling. There is nothing new to add, and this item will be removed from old business.
- Oak Hill Tank Assessment Cleaning and inspection – Wright Pierce Proposal: The Superintendent will follow up with Wright Pierce in the beginning of the year.
- Superintendent’s Succession Plan: An outline of the plan was included in the August monthly package. Ongoing: No additional updates to share at this time.
- 0 Thames Road – 55 plus proposed development: The proposed developer needs to appear before the zoning board to obtain a variance, as 55-and-older communities require 200 feet of public access, while the current proposal only includes private access off Granite Hill. There are several steps and approvals the developer must fulfill before water access can be discussed. No additional updates to share at this time.
- Cardinal Landing – 65 Farmer Road – W-P Engineers Review Letter. The developer submitted the evaluation completed by Wright Pierce to the state, along with an application for a community well. Both the community well and individual private wells were denied by NHDES. The only option remaining for the developer is to connect to public water. The developer has a second meeting with the state to appeal their decision on putting in a community well verses connecting to public water.

- Bookkeeping assistance to the Hooksett Village Water Precinct. The last day of assistance was December 9, 2024. Their contracted bookkeeper has now returned to work.
- 2025 Operating Budget: The Superintendent has completed the operating budget for 2025 and reviewed the anticipated revenue and year-to-date expenses. The overall budget reflects a 1.8% increase over last year. The Superintendent has prepared a draft of the MS-737 for the Department of Revenue and written the warrant articles based on the proposed budget. A date has not yet been set to review our operating budget with the town budget committee.

A motion was made by Mark Bourque to approve the 2025 Operating Budget as presented, totaling \$1,276,045.00, along with the Special Warrant Articles. The motion was seconded by Ray Bonney; all in favor, motion passed.

#### New Business:

- Budget Committee Meeting: Chair Richard Bairam will accompany the Superintendent Chris Culberson to the budget committee meeting.
- 2016 Chevy Silverado - Mechanics Body: The Superintendent stated that vehicles are typically replaced when they reach ten years of age. This vehicle will be retained until 2027. In the meantime, the Superintendent has purchased a mechanics body for this truck from Platinum Truck and Equipment for \$11,640. This price includes the installation of the mechanics body and lights.
- NHDES Leak Detection Survey Grant program: The Superintendent submitted an application for the 2025 Leak Detection Survey Grant. CHWP was selected for 2025. A leak detection survey typically involves a professional company using specialized equipment like acoustic listening devices to systematically check a water distribution system, pinpointing leaks by listening for unusual water noises at various points along pipes, often utilizing techniques like correlation analysis to identify the precise leak location. There is no cost to the precinct for this testing to be completed.

Superintendents Report – Included in the monthly package to Commissioners. Posted online and in the office.

- During November, customers in Granite Heights experienced intermittent low water pressure at night, although they did not lose water entirely. After investigation, it was determined that the issue stemmed from the original programming of the Granite Heights Booster Station, which incorrectly set the restart pressure for the booster pumps at 30 psi instead of the appropriate 50 psi. The program has since been corrected, and the system is now functioning properly. This issue arose recently due to tighter pressure zones, attributed to reduced water leaks on the customer side, which has led to a new demand pattern for water usage during the night. Overall, this change supports water conservation and improved system management.

Motion by Ray Bonney to accept the superintendents report as is and seconded by Mark Bourque; all in favor and accepted as presented.

Housekeeping Rule, Indemnity Rule and Policy Approval – Motion made by Ray Bonney and seconded by Mark Bourque; all in favor.

With no other business to be conducted, a motion was made by Mark Bourque to adjourn and seconded by Ray Bonney at 7:28pm; all in favor.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2025 - 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Nadeau, Precinct Clerk

DRAFT