

LINCOLN WATER COMMISSIONERS

March 12, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Lincoln Board of Water Commissioners was held at the Lincoln Water Commission Office with Commissioners Smith, Conklin, and Hadley present. Commissioner Kay was absent. Also present was Water Superintendent John S. Faile, and District 5 candidate for Water Commissioner Dennis Auclair.

In the absence of a Chairman due to Commissioner Kelly's resignation, upon motion of Commissioner Hadley, seconded by Commissioner Conklin, it was VOTED: That Commissioner Smith is elected acting chairman for the meeting. That leaving the position of Secretary vacant, Commissioner Hadley was elected Acting Secretary for the meeting.

Acting Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM.

Upon motion of Commissioner Hadley, seconded by Commissioner Conklin, it was VOTED:

- 1. That \$500.00 is deposited in the 457 deferred compensation plan for Jean Gagnon in honor of his 30th anniversary as an employee of the Lincoln Water Commission.**
- 2. That Mr. Gagnon be honored at a breakfast at Shannas Restaurant on Thursday, March 20th at 8:00AM**

3. That the meeting in April be held on April 16th in order that Dennis Auclair is allowed to attend in his official capacity. APPROVED

Upon motion of Commissioner Hadley, seconded by Commissioner Conklin, it was VOTED: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. APPROVED.

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Upon motion of Commissioner Conklin, seconded by Commissioner Hadley, it was VOTED: That the Superintendent's Report for the month of February is accepted and ordered placed on file. APPROVED.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Upon motion of Commissioner Conklin, seconded by Commissioner Hadley, it was VOTED: To accept the Financial Report for the month of February and ordered placed on file for audit. APPROVED.

CREDIT REPORT

The Credit Report for the month of February will be placed on file.

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

The Board was presented with the monthly statement of investments, encumbrances, and amounts available for capital projects for their information.

MONTHLY INVOICES

Upon motion of Commissioner Conklin, seconded by Commissioner Hadley Accounts Payable in the amount of \$126,649.04, Accounts Payable Lincoln Finance \$4,164.12 and Direct Payments in the amount of \$68,358.86 are approved for payment. APPROVED

ABATEMENTS

Upon motion of Commissioner Hadley, seconded by Commissioner Conklin, senior abatements of surcharges in the amount of \$38.30 were approved as follows:

\$29.06 to Sandra Lutynski of 7 Nottingham Drive and \$9.24 to Thomas Bain of Unit 203 Prestwick Drive.

APPROVED.

ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT REPORT

The Account Adjustment report will be placed on file.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Communication from three customers requesting the abatement of interest were discussed and resolved as follows:-

1. Mr. William Leonard of 13 West Butterfly Way requested the abatement of interest in the amount of \$46.80 due to the fact that he

did not receive the bill. Continued attempts to mail the bill resulted in return from the post office as unable to deliver. The name on the account as obtained from the tax assessors office was Rinky Dinky Realty Trust and after that bill was returned twice, it was mailed to Mr. William Leonard at 13 West Butterfly Way and he did receive it. Because Mr. Leonard has never been late with a payment in the past and because it appears to be more of a postal error than not, upon motion of Commissioner Conklin, seconded by Commissioner Hadley, it was VOTED: To abate $\frac{1}{2}$ of the interest fee to \$23.40. APPROVED.

2. Mr. Brian Ferland of 143 Jencks Hill Road adamantly refused to pay \$2.40 interest on an overdue bill stating that he was in Afghanistan for 15 months and should not be charged interest. He also refused to put the request for the abatement of interest in writing, stating that he would go to the newspapers if he had to pay. Upon motion of Commissioner Hadley, seconded by Commissioner Conklin, it was VOTED: That since one of the Commissioners is a Veteran and the other has a son who served two terms in Iraq, they know that a veteran is told to put their affairs in order and be sure that all responsibilities are met by placing someone in charge and therefore the interest will not be abated because of Mr. Ferland's attitude. APPROVED.

3. Mr. Dean Albanese of 10 Steeple Lane has received an estimated bill for the three years he has owned that property; mostly because

the water meter is in a pit and the 4 x 4 piece of pressure treated lumber to attach the touch pad is not in place as per procedure. Mr. Albanese has always paid the estimated bill on time but was much underestimated. When an actual reading was obtained, more than One Million gallons of water had passed through the meter in those three years. With interest Mr. Albanese's account totals \$5,274.03, and while he agrees he does have responsibility for some of the amount due, he would like the interest abated. Upon motion of Commissioner Hadley, seconded by Commissioner Conklin, it was VOTED: That Mr. Albanese be granted an \$800.00 abatement of interest and be given thirty days to pay the assessment and thirty days to install the post at the meter pit, or the interest will be reinstated. APPROVED.

b) Communication from the Board to Lincoln's representatives and senators relative to 2008 S2635 "An Act Relating to Waters and Navigation" and 2008 – H7787 "An Act Relating to Water and Navigation – Clean Water" expressing the concerns of the Lincoln Water Commission were executed by all members and mailed.

OLD BUSINESS

a) Toilet tank banks are available free of charge to all customers in an effort to promote conservation.

b) Upon motion of Commissioner Hadley, seconded by

Commissioner Conklin, it was VOTED: That the average daily balance is transferred from Bank of America to Sovereign Bank, to an interest bearing account, and emergency payments and wire transfers is generated from Sovereign and Accounts Payable continue through Bank of America. Signatures on the Sovereign Account will be the Superintendent, the Office Manager and Commissioner Conklin. APPROVED.

NEW BUSINESS

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

a) The Water Commission has been invited to a Lincoln Town Council Work Session on Monday, March 17, 2008 at 6:30PM at the Lincoln Town Hall, to discuss the proposed charter changes.

b) Meeting for the discussion of the labor contract is scheduled to take place in April.

c) The monthly safety report will be placed on file

The Superintendent informed the Board of an email from Copper and Brass Sales.

The Lincoln Water Commission is leasing land in Smithfield for a new water tank and while this lease was purchased for \$1.00 for Ninety-Nine years. However, Copper and Brass Sales received a tax bill from the Town of Smithfield in the amount of \$12,568.00 for the

improvement on their property. The Superintendent will meet with Smithfield officials to discuss the tax assessment since the water tank will serve as a benefit to both Towns especially in the Airpark and following the emergency.

The Superintendent presented the Board with a copy of a letter he is mailing to the Rhode Island Water Resources Board requesting a grant for 50% reimbursement for the emergency interconnection with the Town of Smithfield.

Upon motion of Commissioner Hadley, seconded by Commissioner Conklin, it was VOTED: To adjourn to executive session in accordance with RIGL 42-26-5a (1) – 9 to discuss personnel matters at 7:30 PM.

Upon motion of Commissioner Conklin, seconded by Commissioner Hadley, it was VOTED: To seal the minutes of the closed session in accordance with RIGL 42-26-7c.

Upon motion of Commissioner Conklin, seconded by Commissioner Hadley, it was VOTED: To return to the regularly scheduled meeting.

Upon motion of Commissioner Conklin, seconded by Commissioner Hadley, it was VOTED: To adjourn at 8:03 PM. APPROVED