

WATER ADVISORY BOARD - MCKOWNVILLE WATER DISTRICT

MEETING: March 24, 1965 - Held at the Town Hall, Guilderland
PRESENT: Abele, Purdy, Hamme, Feldmann, Reynders, Swyer, Richey,
J. Kenneth Fraser, Engineer, Howard Jacobson, Water Supt.
ABSENT : Dascher, Zyniecki, Schwartz
Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Abele

Mr. Fraser was called upon to explain the plans and specifications for the filter plant expansion. Among the points covered along with actual physical aspects of the addition were the following:

1. The new filter (one) has been designed oversized because of the difficult water it will be called upon to treat.
2. Under extremely bad conditions it will be necessary to backwash the filter in eight hours. Under good conditions it could go as much as two days before backwashing is necessary.
3. It will be important TO TREAT THE RESERVOIR FREQUENTLY to check algae as this is a deterrent to efficient operation of this diatomaceous earth type filter.
4. The diatomaceous earth filter pit must be cleaned about once a month.
5. The low lift pump for the D.E. filter will have to be started manually after it shuts off.

Mr. Hamme asked if the new filter could not be automated. Mr. Fraser estimated it could at a cost in the neighborhood of \$6,000.

Mr. Fraser estimated the cost exclusive of automation of the new filter and addition in the neighborhood of \$40,000. which he thought was on the high side.

Mr. Swyer suggested that an alternator addendum be included in the specifications to include automation of the low lift pump that serves the filter.

Mr. Feldmann questioned the age of the fuel oil tank which has to be moved, also the liability limitation provisions of the contract. Mr. Robinson said it was in accordance with other town contracts.

Motion by Feldmann, seconded by Purdy to increase the amount to be paid to a single person claim from \$100,000. to \$200,000. Approved unanimously.

The matter of the age of the heater in the filter plant was brought up. Should it be replaced at this time? Mr. Fraser is to investigate.

Motion by Mr. Purdy, seconded by Mr. Hamme to approve the plans for alterations to filter plant with an addendum or alternate included in bids for automating the filtering system and that Mr. Fraser investigate the need to replace the present heating plant and that the Town Board be asked to proceed without delay to get the contract for the work let. Adopted unanimously.

At this point the Town Board opened its meeting at 8:00 P.M.

A date of April 19th was set for the bid opening for the filter plant project, provided it could be published within the legally established limits.

Members of the McKownville Water Advisory Board were extended an invitation to attend a hearing to be held on April 1st for the townwide water system.

After the conclusion of the Town Board meeting, members adjourned to the Town Clerk's Office to continue this meeting.

Mr. Purdy suggested the water regulations for sprinkling be changed to shorten the evening hours to allow greater recovery time for the storage tank. Mr. Abele suggested we proceed cautiously on any increase in water use until the drought condition eases and the new filtration equipment is completed. The people are educated now to the restrictions which have been used successfully for several years.

Motion by Feldmann, seconded by Purdy to request that the Town Board consider changing the permitted hours to 7:00 to 9:00 A.M. and 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. on the same days as previously scheduled. This to take effect in April and to continue to June 10th when more realistic evaluation could be made.

Abele raised the question if a publicity report to the people should not be considered at this time to give the people an idea of the work we have accomplished so far as well as our projected aims for improving the present system. The consensus was that it would be a good idea. No definite action was taken due to lateness of the hour and the amount of business to be discussed.

The following matters were discussed and recommendations made that they be investigated by the Engineer and/or the Town Board:

1. That the Supervisor be urged to take action on the acquisition of the Church Pond and report as soon as possible. As an alternate the possibility that it could be taken by condemnation should be explored and reported upon.
2. That the Engineer be authorized to prepare a complete up to date map of the distribution system of the existing distributing systems of the McKownville and Birchmont Water Districts in accordance with recommendations of the New York Fire Insurance Rating Organization.
3. That the Engineer be authorized to submit suggestions and cost estimate of a feasible secondary 8" main on the North side of Western Avenue and making it available for the connection of the Stuyvesant Plaza system to complete their loop and give a secondary avenue for water to reach the balance of the distribution as recommended in the NYFIRO report.
4. That the Town consider the adoption of the Fire Prevention Code referred to in the report.
5. That the Engineer be authorized to study the feasibility of the installation of a new hydrant on the Birchmont main in the vicinity of Short St. and East Dillenbeck if it can be determined that this will give a satisfactory fire flow to relieve the situation at the one hydrant on W. Dillenbeck, also that consideration be given to the installation of an additional hydrant on Fuller Road in the vicinity of Stuyvesant Plaza.
6. That the Town officials be asked to provide us with a complete rundown of information of costs and outstanding indebtedness on both McKownville and Birchmont Districts including the amount of water used in 1964 by each and the cost of operation of each district during 1964, so that an evaluation may be made of present rates.

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Discussion of possible ways to increase storage capacity. Mr. Fraser recommended that the idea of increasing the height of the dam be temporarily shelved as the State of New York would require rebuilding the drainage under Western Avenue to take the overflow.

Elevated storage tanks were discussed. To give much storage area the cost of these would be prohibitive.

Mr. Fraser did not think much of ponding. Considerations would have to be given to the amount of land that would be necessary, plus the possibility that the ground would not hold the water. The matter of Federal Funds being available for farmers for this purpose was discussed. Bob Richey will get information and figures on this.

It was agreed that a letter outlining our requests be drafted and sent to the Town Board.

No definite date was set for the next meeting pending receipt of at least some of the requested information.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 P.M.

Fred B. Abele, Chairman
Secretary pro tem