The duly warned regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on February 13, 2019 in the Lanpher Memorial Library.

Trustees Present
Frederika French, Chair
Jack Anderson
Peter Gallo
Dan Young

Others Present
Carol Robertson, General Manager
Naomi Johnson, P.E., President, Dufresne Group

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened the floor for public comments. There were none. The Chair recognized Naomi Johnson for discussion of the drinking water system engineering report which she prepared. She reviewed the condition of existing infrastructure, needed corrective measures and the timing of work. The GM noted the cash drain on water department funds due to main line rupture repairs and the need for coordinating multiple construction projects when the streets are open. Video inspections of the wastewater/sewer lines could reveal needed line replacements so that these can be done at the same time streets are opened for water main replacements. There was a lengthy discussion. By consensus, the Board agreed that it was not feasible to conduct bond voting prior to this year’s construction season. Therefore, the bond process and video inspection of the wastewater/sewer force mains should culminate in coordinated construction to begin in 2020. This provides time for the Town to include needed stormwater work while the streets are open for drinking water and wastewater/sewer work.

Motion by Peter Gallo and second by Jack Anderson to appoint Dan Young to the two-year trustee position vacated by Tim Yarrow. The motion carried unanimously. Bylaws stipulate that an appointed Trustee may serve until the next election, which is the Annual Meeting on May 7, 2019. The two-year term ends May, 2020.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to approve the DWSFR, Step 2, State Revolving Loan Program Funding Application for Final Design and Engineering Agreement with Dufresne Group. Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to approve the 2019 Water Department Budget. Following discussion, the motion carried unanimously.
Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to accept Union Bank’s line of credit bid for 2019. Following discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Dan Young to authorize opening a Union Bank sinking fund with any remaining Clean Renewable Bond funds unspent of the Hyde Park Solar, Waterhouse Project. Following discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

The GM requested a change in the Community Fund qualification method in order to comply with current Vermont Renewable Energy Standards for Tier 3. The fund was approved using the annual HUD criteria for Hyde Park. The requested change will utilize income limits established by the Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families, Weatherization Program income limits.

Motion by Jack Anderson and second by Peter Gallo to utilize the income limits established by the VT Weatherization Program and make revisions as needed in future years to keep Community Fund income limits in compliance with Tier 3 requirements. Following discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

The GM discussed VPPSA and Hyde Park Electric’s utilization of VPPSA services following membership withdrawal. VPPSA membership carries with it responsibility for debt and expenses in the event of a member default and/or other unexpected events related to capital projects that HPE does not participate in or benefit from. All other VPPSA members participate in and benefit from capital projects. HPE’s November withdrawal serves to mitigate/eliminate risk. VPPSA offers various services to non-members both in state and out-of-state and offered HPE a contract for services at an initial rate of $100 per hour, which is not workable for joint-action governmental and regulatory related matters. The GM requested that VPPSA consider a method for HPE and other public power utilities to participate in and fairly contribute financially for joint-action governmental and regulatory related matters. The VPPSA Board acted to unanimously deny HPE’s request.

The GM presented the 2019 Resource Report provided to the Public Utility Commission. The Work Plan was presented and discussed.

There being no further business, motion by Peter Gallo and second by Dan Young to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. The motion carried.

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Riki French, Chair                  Date