

**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 25, 2013
MEETING ROOM 014**

Present: Dave Keating, Brian Antonioli, Jared Adams, Doug Valovcin

Present: Jay Leary

MEETING began at 6:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

WATER SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

The Board interviewed Douglas Valovcin as the one candidate for the position of Water Superintendent.

Mr. Adams praised Mr. Valovcin for his ability to interact with this staff. He asked Mr. Valovcin to explain his scope of work while he worked in Taunton. In addition to his description of work in Taunton, Mr. Valovcin also spoke about his work in the Water Department since he began in 2007 – including overseeing the entire installation of new water meters for all ratepayers, and the shut-down of Well #4 Treatment Plant in 2008.

Mr. Keating asked Mr. Valovcin about his ideas for enhancing the communication between the Water Department staff, Town of Holliston, and ratepayers. Mr. Valovcin suggested changes to the Water Department organizational structure. He saw the need for a Chief Operator who would complete state reports, order chemicals for both Treatment Plants, and co-ordinate various tasks of the Water Department. He would not eliminate the Operations Manager position (which he is currently while serving as Interim Water Superintendent). He spoke of the need to place all of the staff in one location which would facilitate communications between office and field staff who are currently housed in two locations in town.

Mr. Antonioli questioned Mr. Valovcin about changes that he would make to department if he became the Water Superintendent. Mr. Valovcin listed the following changes:

- Move the entire staff to one location
- Take on no new debt for now
- Re-visit Master Plan to determine new projects
- Enforce Water Ban
- Better educate residents – include DEP restrictions
- Use website more to inform – create one-page newsletter
- Get handle on delinquent payments

Mr. Antonioli also questioned Mr. Valovcin about his idea of the Department of Public Works that is proposed by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Valovcin replied that he has worked previously in DPW structures, but the scope of work does not change.

Mr. Keating asked Mr. Valovcin how he would balance between field work and long-term projects and grants. Mr. Valovcin said that he has some experience in those areas while he worked in Taunton. Currently, he believes that the Holliston Water Department is too small – it needs a hands-on Water Superintendent who ensures that the staff has the tools to complete their work. If the Town of Holliston switches to a DPW structure, he would change nothing because it is a working relationship.

The Board concluded the interview.

In his closing statement, Mr. Valovcin said that he would change the direction of the Water Department so that the department can get the respect and trust of the people which the department had long ago.

Mr. Keating started to make a motion when he was interrupted by Mr. Leary. Mr. Leary asked the Board to not make a decision on a Water Superintendent until after they had listened to the Board of Selectmen at the joint meeting of the two boards that was to take place immediately after this meeting.

The Board agreed to wait.

DOCUMENTS

None

INVOICES AND CHANGE ORDERS

Invoices and change orders were signed at the meeting.

Mr. Keating made a motion: **“Motion to adjourn”**

Mr. Antonioli seconded the motion.

Mr. Adams, Mr. Antonioli, and Mr. Keating voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

**Next BWC meeting –September 25, 2013 7:00pm with Board of Selectmen
Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 6:00pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Keating
Clerk