



Established

1996

SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

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SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

Minutes of Public Hearing

June 2, 2020

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission held a virtual public hearing on June 2, 2020. The virtual meeting was held in accordance with Governor Baker's *Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law*, G. L. c. 30A, § 20, dated March 12, 2020.

Chairman Vanessa Otero called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. and Commission Secretary Jaimye Bartak called the attendance roll:

William E. Leonard, Present
Daniel Rodriguez, Present
Vanessa Otero, Present

Also Present

Also Participating Remotely

Joshua Schimmel, Executive Director
Norman J. Guz, Commission Counsel
Anthony Basile, Comptroller
Domenic Pellegrino, Director of Finance
Bill Fuqua, Director of Wastewater Services
Dan DiRienzo, Director of Field Services
Ryan Wingerter, Deputy Director of Field Services
Scott Loomis, Procurement Officer
Nicole Sanford, Water Resources Manager
Christina Jones, Deputy Director of Water Operations
Stephanie Douglass, Human Resources Manager
Jim Laurila, Director of Water Operations
James Richardson, Director of IT
Katie Shea, Educational Outreach Specialist
Jaimye Bartak, Communications Manager/Secretary of the Commission

Commissioner Otero opened the hearing, and introduced Executive Director Josh Schimmel to begin the presentation on the FY 2021 budget and capital improvement plan.

Mr. Schimmel opened the presentation with a welcome. Communications Manager Jaimye Bartak presented an agenda of the presentation and an overview of the Commission's water system and infrastructure. Mr. Schimmel explained the annual budgeting and financial planning process at the Commission. Mr. Schimmel described the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on water consumption and revenues of the Commission. Mr. Schimmel described the proposed FY21 rates, customer assistance programs, and proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations. Comptroller Anthony Basile explained the main structure of the Commission's budget and capital plan, the components of the FY21 Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Budget, the sources of increases in the O&M budget, FY21 Capital Budget, and the three-year capital plan. Director of Water Operations Jim Laurila presented all FY21 capital projects

within the Water Supply cost center. Chief Engineer Bob Stoops presented all FY21 capital projects within the Power Supply and Water Distribution cost center. Director of Wastewater Operations Bill Fuqua presented all FY21 capital projects within the Wastewater Treatment cost centers. Director of Field Services Dan DiRienzo presented all FY21 capital projects in the Water and Wastewater Distribution cost centers. Director of IT James Richardson presented all FY21 capital projects in the Administration cost center. Ms. Bartak concluded with commentary on the importance of water to everyday life in the Springfield region, the value of tap water, and next steps in the FY21 budget process.

The floor was opened to the public for questions. Mr. Schimmel and Commissioner Otero answered questions from the public. Commissioner Otero thanked Commission staff for their presentation. The hearing was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JBartak", written in a cursive style.

Jaimye Bartak, Secretary