



TOWN OF WINCHESTER – CITY OF WINSTED

Town Hall – 338 Main Street

WINSTED, CONNECTICUT 06098

Special Meeting

Water & Sewer Commission

Town Hall, 338 Main Street, Winsted

November 17, 2022

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. The following members were present: Joe Lemelin, John Massicotte, George Closson and Jim Rollins. Also present Ann Marie Rheault, Finance Director.

J. Rollins: Water tank bids were received and were higher than expected. Wallens Hill Tank bids range from \$2,514,500 to \$2,985,389. Crystal Lake Tank bids range from \$2,366,500 to \$2,867,607. At first look, Guerrea Construction Co., Inc. is the low bidder on both tanks.

J. Rollins: Based on the low bids plus costs to date, plus estimated construction engineering, plus estimated contingency for the; Water Main Project, the Wallens Hill Tank, and the Crystal Lake Tank, the likely overall cost is expected to not exceed \$8,500,000. This is \$2,300,000 above the amount that was authorized to spend/borrow.

Discussion: Recently retired debt of \$275k per year versus the repayment of debt for the \$6.2m initial request and the \$8.5m updated amount. Eventually, two options were discussed in depth.

1. Stay with the initial \$6.2m amount and complete the water mains, build the new Wallens Hill Tank, and update the SCADA at the Crystal Lake Plant, but do not build the new Tank at Crystal Lake.
2. Go back out to referendum for additional spending/borrowing authority from \$6.2m to \$8.5m. If the referendum passes, construct all three projects, and if the referendum fails, just finish the Water Mains, build the Wallens Tank and upgrade the Crystal Lake SCADA system. The Crystal Lake Tank would have to be a new project at a later date.

The Commission decided that seeking borrowing authority for the additional \$2.3m is the best course of action and voted to make that request at the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting on 11/21/2022.

Motion by G. Closson, Refer the request for additional spending/borrowing to the Board of Selectmen at the 11/21/2022 meeting, and start the process for Planning & Zoning Review, Special Town Meeting, and Referendum. Second by Joe Lemelin. Vote, All in favor? Unanimous.

Motion to adjourn, by J. Lemelin, Second by G. Closson. Vote, All in favor? Unanimous. 7:00pm.

Minutes by J. Rollins