

As voted by the Board of Trustees and in accordance with the notice of the meeting, the monthly Workshop Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Portland Water District was held in the Nixon Training Center at the general offices of the District, 225 Douglass Street, Portland, Maine on March 11, 2019. In attendance from staff were Messrs. Crovo, Kane, Firmin, Wallace, and Meses. Lewis, Katsiaficas, Demers, and Walker.

Trustees Siviski and Douglas were absent.

President Lunt convened the Public Hearing at 6:37 p.m.

### **Special Meeting**

A Public Hearing was held to receive public input on the proposed average 4.4% increase in water rates effective May 1, 2019.

The District received 3 inquiries regarding the rate increase, 1 call against the increase, 1 call requesting the history of water rate increases for the last 10 years and 1 email stating the communication about the rate increase could be improved.

Ms. Lewis' remarks to the public and the Board are noted on the attached PowerPoint presentation.

President Lunt asked if there were any questions from the public. There were none.

Trustee Willey commented on the continued growth in Portland and the addition of new customers.

Trustee Libby asked, does this rate adjustment cause PWD rates to exceed the national standard of 2.5% of median income? Ms. Lewis responded that PWD rates are below the national standard and further noted that the study, presented to the Board last year, indicated that the water rates are affordable to our customers.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:51 p.m.

President Lunt opened the workshop meeting at 6:52 p.m.

#### **1. Other Business.**

General Manager Lewis reminded the Board that the DiPietro scholarship deadline is March 15.

#### **2. Executive Session with the District's Negotiators regarding Labor Union Negotiations.**

Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(D) labor negotiations, the Board went into executive session to discuss the status of labor union contracts negotiations with its negotiating team.

A motion was made by Trustee Rich and seconded by Trustee Willey to go into executive session to discuss the status of labor union contracts negotiations.

3. **Adjourn.**

The Board came out of executive session and adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Submitted by,

Donna M. Katsiaficas  
Clerk