

Sunray Shores Water District (SSWD) Annual Meeting

4/26/2025

Board Members in attendance: Don Simpson, Norm Duval, Denis Duval, Lisa Garnett, Jeff Henn

Location: Best Western – Laconia NH

Meeting Minutes:

- Michelle Duval is Moderator of the meeting
- 10:01am Meeting Start
- Article #1 Read by Michelle – Authorize board to raise \$2 million additional funds to cover the cost of the entire water system
 - Don Simpson Motion to vote
 - Ed Stephanson 2nd the motion
 - Question: How do we pay it back?
 - Norm: Hopefully with grants, possibly with loans. Board has run some rough numbers and worse case scenario would be approximately \$200/month per property
 - Don: This would be a worse case scenario, all \$2 million dollars through a loan
 - Question: What if the town takes over? (Kirk McFarland)
 - Norm: Water district owns the land, would that be turned over? Legal issues, our municipal legal team would advise us to find other legal representation
 - Question: Can we get legal counsel? (Ken Ledoux)
 - Denis: not in that situation, why research now when all the engineering work has been accomplished and plans in place
 - Don: He asked the town, they're not looking to take over SSWD
 - Question: Past argument is town is too expensive, maybe they are more cost effective now? (John Cline)
 - Norm: Constant failure with the system we have now, do we kick the can down the road another year? Fail this vote, look another year and then have legal look at it
 - John response: keep moving ahead with our plan and get bids, but before contract is awarded look at possibility of town takeover

- Tom Bouchard: The only town water for Belmont is in the downtown area by town hall and the water comes from Laconia and they manage it
- Dave Reinauer: Legal gray area with the land and taxes
- Ed Stephanson: In the town election 30 days ago there was a note on a ballot item, water & sewer funds come from users, not the entire town, if the town were to take over it would only be funded by those that use it (our water district)
- Start the vote at 10:21am
 - John Cline motion to vote
 - Laurette Young 2nd
 - Unanimous vote -passed
 - Start ballot voting
- Article #2 Read by Michelle – Operating Budget
 - Question: This is for the operating budget only? (Charlene Reinauer)
 - Lisa: Yes
 - Charlene Reinauer motion to vote
 - Ed Stephenson 2nd
 - Unanimous vote – passed
 - Lisa reads the 2024 budget, where the funds went
 - 10% increase this year to account for inflation
 - Dave Reinauer motion to vote
 - John Cline 2nd
 - Unanimous vote – passed
- Article #3 Read by Michelle – Capital Reserve
 - Questions: This is to clarify that this is for the trust fund? (Charlene Reinauer)
 - Lisa: Yes
 - Question: Extra \$16,000 comes from 2024 leftover money (Kevin Walsh)
 - Lisa: Yes
 - Don Simpson motion
 - Ed Stephanson 2nd
 - Unanimous vote – passed
- Article #4 Read by Michelle – Officers of SSWD
 - Norm present:
 - Head commissioner, Don, is stepping down with 1 year remaining on his term
 - All other terms for each position are up for election this year too
 - Per the state guidelines, all positions need to be filled, if no one fills an open position there can be legal issues

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- Don motion to open nominations
 - Ed Stephanson 2nd
 - Unanimous vote – passed
 - Question: What is the effort for a commissioner? (Kirk Macfarland)
 - Don: Typically about four meetings a year, occasional call to deal with a water leak, all in all a couple hours a week. There is still work to be done until a bid is awarded, probably at least a hour a week effort
 - Question: Still need to raise funds? (Charlene Reinauer)
 - Norm: Correct, goal is to find someone who knows how to apply for grants and forgivable loans or other government programs, probably hire them
 - Dave Reinauer nominates Norm Duval for remaining year of head commissioner role
 - Charlene Reinauer 2nd
 - Norm accepts nomination, unanimous vote – passed
 - Don Simpson nominates Kirk Macfarland for 2 year commissioner role
 - Denis Duval 2nd
 - Kirk cannot accept nomination, no other nominations, role remains unfilled
 - Charlene nominates Denis Duval for 1 year commissioner role
 - Don Simpson 2nd
 - Denis accepts nomination, unanimous vote – passed
 - Denis Duval nominates Lisa Garnett for treasurer
 - Bob Bolduc 2nd
 - Lisa accepts nomination, unanimous vote – passed
 - Bob Bolduc nominates Jeff Henn for executive clerk
 - Denis Duval nominates Tasha Belair
 - Tasha cannot accept nomination, Jeff accepts nomination
 - Charlene Reinauer 2nd
 - Unanimous vote – passed
 - John Cline motion to accept board
 - Laurette Young 2nd
 - Unanimous vote – passed
 - Result of Article #1 ballot vote: 34 yes, 6 no – Article passes
 - Article #5 Read by Michelle – New Business
 - John Cline motion to accept 2024 meeting minutes
 - Ed Stephanson 2nd
 - Unanimous vote – passed
 - John Cline motion to accept presidents report

- Kirk Macfarland 2nd
- Unanimous vote – passed
- Question: Alternatives to our water district, is there a way to put together all the collective knowledge and due process/homework and what was researched so that is available to everyone in the water district? Perhaps an email with justification, send out meeting minutes to show research? (John Cline)
 - Norm: Anyone can send an email to SSWD looking for answers or stop any of the board members on the street to discuss
- Question: Anyone look into independent wells for each place? Cost for that? (Mike R)
 - Norm: Don't have a good answer for that question
 - Up Sunset drive a home was recently built and their well cost about \$40,000
 - There is risk of a propertie(s) not having good water
 - Many properties are close to the water, there are state guidelines (Charlene Reinauer)
 - Wells are currently located where they are because they could find good water there (Rod Glass)
 - Would the town approve 98 people to drill wells close to each other (Don Simpson)
 - Risky per property (Kirk Macfarland)
 - Funds have already been approved for this project, last years vote (Denis Duval)
 - Other states require that if there is a public utility line for water or sewer are the property, you're required to connect to it, not sure if that applies in NH (Ed Stephenson)
 - Norm: SSWD is a state recognized municipality
- Question: The initial bid package last year wasn't sufficient and there weren't any bids (Kevin Walsh)
 - Norm: new package has the Architectual drawings, electrical requirements, site plans and engineering plan so it's now a complete bid package and a performance bond will be required by contractor
- Monday is the town of Belmont planning board meeting at 6pm, one of the items will be the pump house that is proposed
- Question: Can package of design be sent out? (Brian Butler)
 - Norm: Yes, once the bid package is complete
- Rod Glass motion to adjourn the meeting

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- Harry Young 2nd
 - Unanimous vote – passed
 - Meeting complete at 11:36am


Jeffrey Klein
SUSD Executive Clerk
4/26/2025