



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 3, 2023

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Dept.
345 Main Street, Norwell

Present: Fred St. Ours, Steve Ivas, Peter Dillon, Howard Tufts; resident John Lydon (238 Main St)

Prepared by: Donna Snow

Attendance:

Jason Federico was not available for tonight's meeting.

Meeting Minutes:

Fred St. Ours motioned to the approve meeting minutes from 7/13/23, Steve Ivas seconded, all in favor at 4:44pm

Abatement Review 24 Barque Hill:

The Board voted to bill all of the water usage at lowest tier. The new bill amount will be \$729.88 plus the meter fee.

PFAS Project Update:

Howard Tufts noted the PFAS project has moved to the fall. Howard Tufts explained the roof will come off and a temporary cover is not necessary as the filters will be installed immediately. This will remediate Wells 1 and 6 from PFAS contamination. A resident on Main Street (J.Lydon) was present tonight and asked will we have PFAS in the system once the filters are installed? Fred St. Ours noted we can shut off some wells in the winter when demand is low and utilize only the wells at South Street. Peter Dillon explained Massachusetts has 20 ppt for six compounds which are the most common. Peter Dillon explained a tanker accident in 1993 resulted in high PFAS levels in the area near South Street. After the project is complete, Norwell will end up being below the standard for the 6 PFAS compounds. The resident provided literature relative to PFAS solutions which was scanned and shared to the Board members previously. Peter Dillon explained Washington Street is high but not over the State's standard and Grove Street runs around 5 ppt. The resident requested a Town wide cancer survey, Peter Dillon explained someone from Department of Public Health would need to conduct this type of research. The resident knows of another four residents nearby who have cancer and feels it is related to PFAS. The resident advised that Duxbury did a survey regarding artificial turf resulting in health problems. Peter Dillon noted the Water Department will follow up and inspect the residents' home relative to his pipes.

PFAS Mailer:

Fred St. Ours plans to review the mailer next week, if no feedback is provided then it is fine to mail.

First Commitment FY24:

The spreadsheet needs to be revised to note FY24 not FY23. New rates have impacted revenue and may result in the department's highest revenue year.

Unanticipated Items:**Verizon:**

Jason Federico was on site near the Grove Street well field to identify an agreed upon location for a cell tower. Verizon was pleased with the location; the road will need to be added and some trees will have to come down.

Fracking:

The contractor arrived today and reached out to Peter Dillon. A pumping test will need to follow in addition to testing for PFAS. Peter Dillon asked if we could do a pump test internally. Fred St. Ours asked Howard Tufts about Well 9, Howard advised Well 9 ran for a few weeks with clear water but it is not running now.

South Street Treatment Plant Filters:

Howard Tufts advised the timeline is sometime in late fall; but everything is moving along rapidly. Peter Dillon noted we can post this on social media to inform the residents of the new project timeline.

Fords Crossing Hydrant:

A resident that had met with the Board previously contacted the office today. Howard Tufts stated we have a hydrant to replace at the high school which is higher priority. Fred St. Ours would like to give the resident an answer and not an open-ended promise. Howard Tufts will put a list of hydrants together. Fred St. Ours noted a lot of the hydrants may just need to be raised and not replaced. Howard Tufts notes it takes only one day to replace a hydrant. Peter Dillon suggested telling the resident that the Department will put together a list of hydrants and provide a specific date for scheduled work. Jason Federico spoke with the resident this week and mentioned it would not happen this year. Fred St. Ours would like to schedule the job since they met with the resident back in March. The office administrator will contact the resident and let him know he will get a definitive date once the Assistant Superintendent puts a hydrant list together.

Fred St. Ours made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 PM, seconded by Steve Ivas.

Accepted: Steve P. Ivas Date: 07 Sep 23