

## **BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS** **MEETING MINUTES**

*Feb*  
Date: ~~January~~ 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020      Time: 4:30 PM      Location: Norwell Water Department  
345 Main Street, Norwell

In Attendance: Fred St. Ours, Peter Dillon, and Water Superintendent Jack McInnis  
Guests: Dave DeGhetto

Minutes Prepared By: Donna Snow

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1. The Board members signed abatements, commitments and vouchers.
2. Fred St. Ours motioned to approve meeting minutes from 1/2/20 & 1/16/20; Peter Dillon seconded, all in favor at 4:51 pm.
3. An abatement request for 40 Franklin Road was presented. The Board discussed the residents email along with resident's usage report. Fred St. Ours suggested that we bill all the usage out at tier one plus meter fee, this equated to a total bill of \$267.20. Donna Snow will notify resident of the decision.
4. Fred St. Ours is away until March 10; Peter Dillon is going to request Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> for the Advisory Board Meeting for both the budget and article discussion.
5. FY19 and FY20 commitment comparison was reviewed by BOWC. Jack McInnis pointed out that two new subdivision fees will have a significant impact on the upcoming revenue.
6. Update on test boring work at Well #3; Peter Dillon explained the material was extremely coarse, the water table is at five feet but they did not find a pocket that goes deeper than 30 feet. Fred St. Ours asked if you can utilize sound as a mechanism to see where the bedrock is. Peter Dillon explained ideally they need to find a fracture and he has an idea of where that may be.

7. Jason Federico reported to Jack McInnis that test borings were done at both Stetson Road and Stetson Shrine Lane, each site was drilled to 50 feet before refusal with white clay at 50 feet.
8. Jack McInnis explained the capital outlay for FY21 will allow the servicing of the compressor.
9. Dave DeGhetto was present to discuss a bylaw for abandon buildings, he explained the Police Department can be on the lookout for these type of buildings. Mr. DeGhetto noted the home across from Gaffield Park is an example. The question at hand is - can the water department think of anything that may have an effect on the bylaw? Mr. DeGhetto wants help identifying problem houses from the Water Department. Mr. DeGhetto asked specifically how are leaks identified in the service line when water is not passing through the meter, Fred St. Ours informed him that normally the department is notified by the resident who has observed a saturated spot in the yard or water run-off. Mr. DeGhetto asked if we have situations with leaks in vacant homes; ironically today a home at 900 Main was brought to the office's attention. The meter reader Dan Gage has spoken with someone who assured him they would investigate it but they have never followed up with him. Donna Snow followed up with an email and will process a work order to alert the foreman.
10. Treatment Facility Manager update: Barbara Childs joined Massachusetts Society of Professional Engineers for candidates but she is not getting the response she was expecting. Jack McInnis now needs to sort through the potential applications that she sent to see if anyone local has the skill set.
11. Jack McInnis shared a broken meter report prepared by Dan Gage. Dan presented two homes which have been sent numerous letters and door knockers but have not responded. Jack McInnis explained his preference is to estimate the billings high but this does not always result in the resident contacting the office. Peter Dillon suggested that water is shut off in cases where numerous attempts have been made. Fred St. Ours thinks at bare

minimum we have to threaten to shut off the water, Peter Dillon agreed. Fred St. Ours does want to send the message that compliance is necessary therefore he suggested a new letter is drafted and allow them 14 days to respond to the office or it may result in service disconnect. Peter Dillon stated he may have to shut off water and condemn the house if resident continues to prevent equipment from being repaired.

12. Fred St. Ours motioned to adjourn; Peter Dillon seconded; all in favor at 6:30 pm

Accepted: F. H. St. Ours, Date: 3/12/2020