

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 4, 2021

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Dept.
345 Main Street, Norwell

Attendance: Fred St. Ours, Steve Ivas, Peter Dillon and Superintendent Jack McInnis
Minutes Prepared by: Donna Snow

1. Steve Ivas motioned to approve meeting minutes from 10/7/21; Peter Dillon seconded, all in favor at 4:47pm
2. The Board discussed the water account at 390 Circuit Street. The resident recently reported a leak and it was determined no meter was ever installed in this home. The distribution staff has now installed a meter and the office created a new account. The office will conduct an audit to compare properties listed in assessor database against the water accounts. Those home without town water should be on record with BOH for a domestic well.
3. The Board reviewed the recent commitments and Fred St. Ours noted a wet summer and long standing water restrictions resulted in lower than normal revenue. The Board has no concerns with the commitment at this time.
4. The Board discussed the hydrant data logging on High Street. Jack McInnis notes only one hydrant near 105 High Street is a concern. Service connections were tested for residents that requested. Peter Dillon asked if the pump down the street can be adjusted to improve low pressure in this location. Peter Dillon also suggested to add another tank at Phillips Drive to alleviate this problem, it could be a 250,000-gallon tank but Fred St. Ours thinks it has to be as high as the other tank. It would be a pressure tank not a storage tank, a ball tank to solve the problem long term. Steve Ivas feels we need to achieve 280 feet. Jack McInnis explained the Paradise Drive tank is 280 feet, Judges Hill is 268 feet. Jack McInnis will follow up on ways to improve pressure in the area.
5. The Water office has been working with the BOH to update the Soft Right accounts for locations with an irrigation well. Donna Snow noted a home at 48 Mt. Hope does not have Town Water and the only well on file is an irrigation well, this has been brought to the attention of Ben Margro so he can follow up as necessary.
6. Abatement request was made for 496 River due to a fire, resident called office to advise they are not living back in home yet, therefore Board approved the abatement for usage less the meter expense.
7. Abatement request for 11 Forest Ridge; an estimate bill was provided however when the old meter was removed it did display the actual reading so the office will recalculate newest bill based on actual usage and the Board approved.

8. Jack McInnis updated the Board to advise the Lagoons to be inspected at SSTP he noted however that this is really a job for the summer.
9. Sanitary Survey update on 10/15; Bill Swartz visited the facility. Jack McInnis had to follow up regarding some information relative to tank remediation but overall the inspection went very well.
10. PFAS September results: Jack McInnis informed the Board that on November 1st he sent an email requesting results. The results he has are only preliminary results with PFAS at 21 for South Street; no official results from Analytical. Fred St. Ours noted the delay on results makes it impossible to react.
11. Peter Dillon asked about other labs because results will be much faster and the bottles will be dropped off and picked up. Jack McInnis would like to give Alpha a try since they are in Massachusetts. Peter Dillon noted a company in RI are cheaper and they are interested in working with Norwell and currently they are working with towns such as: Sagamore, Cohasset, and Manchester by the Sea. Peter Dillon wants another round of PFAS on all points. Well 6 was the only well tested for in September. Peter Dillon stated we need to know what Well 1 is testing at and if Well 6 is 21ppt; what are the PFAS results at Well 1? We also need to know about Wells: 7, 8 and 4. Peter Dillon referenced last Board meeting reiterating we need to sample other locations. The October PFAS Jack McInnis noted only Well 6 was tested. Compliance sampling is being conducted at South/Grove/Washington so Jack McInnis will call Alpha for those tests. Peter Dillon wants to test: Well 1, 6, 4, 7, 8. Peter Dillon states the more we know the better we can manage PFAS and maybe Well 1 can be turned back on based on the data from the other wells. Right now Well 7 is not running and maybe Well 7 should be turned back on to pull contaminants from Well 8, these are the things Peter Dillon would like to consider.
12. Steve Ivas will do wetland flagging by treatment plant for GAC testing.
13. Tier Restrictions are currently set to Tier 3; Fred St. Ours suggests moving back to Tier 1 so they can be more impactful when we actually need them. Peter Dillon said the water table is the highest it has ever been so Peter Dillon was in agreement and can revisit again in the spring. Peter Dillon motioned to lift restrictions to Tier 1, Steve Ivas seconded; all in favor at 5:50pm.
14. North River Home Care update for nonpayment and failed backflow device from six months ago. John McGloin marked out service and we have mailed notices repeatedly to North River and so has Water Safety Services. Both Water Safety Services and the Water office have contacted by phone to advise them they have a failed device and non-payment. Attempts to reach Liam at North River are difficult his voicemail is often full. North River is no long in compliance and as such should not be retested and are scheduled to be shut off Monday November 8th. Peter Dillon motioned to shut off water at North River home care on Monday November 8, 2021 unless they pay the bill and a retest is done prior.

Steve Ivas seconded and all in favor at 5:53. Jack McInnis notes the office should charge them to turn service back on – have Dan Gage check regulations for amount to charge. The device must absolutely be fixed before service can be restored.

15. TFM Update by Jack McInnis- Jack McInnis will reach out to a contact that Steve Ivas provided as a potential candidate for this opening.

Fred St. Ours motioned to adjourn, Peter Dillon seconded; all in favor at 6:20pm

Accepted:  Date: 11/19/21