

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

Date: July 18, 2019      Time: 4:30 PM      Location: Norwell Water Dept.  
345 Main Street-Office

### In Attendance:

Board members: Fred St. Ours, Steve Ivas, Allen Perlin and Water Superintendent Jack McInnis

Meeting Minutes Prepared By: Donna Snow

1. The Board members signed abatements, commitments and vouchers.
2. Fred St. Ours motioned to approve meeting minutes of June 20<sup>th</sup> and Steve Ivas seconded; all in favor at 4:41pm.
3. Peter Dillon was not present at tonight's meeting.
4. Nancy Hemingway with the Conservation Department gave a deadline of August on feedback from NWD however the board would like a representative to come to a BOWC meeting, to date they have been unable to attend. Conservation is looking to cross the Bowker's Street Water Department property with one of their trails.
5. An encumbrance sheet for FY19 bills was signed; three vendors were listed to be paid from the prior fiscal year's budget.
6. The board signed Pay Rec #1 for the Tank Rehab Project and also signed a change order request which Jack McInnis will provide to Accounting office and keep original for his records. Caldwell is finished with the Paradise Drive work and control tanks have been switched over, they are working on Judges Hill now. Safety ladders will be installed at both locations and a safety rail will also be installed to provide for solid footing. The paint used shows the overlap on the tank however other towns have also noticed the overlap which is apparently unavoidable. Jack McInnis did have the contractor redo certain portions that he

initially was not happy with; the contractor did accommodate this request. The altitude value at Judges Hill is also being repaired; it is an 8" valve which operates on water pressure. Jack McInnis explained the pilot valve is also being rebuilt as well. Phillips Drive will be next but a different paint system will be applied. Initially the other tanks were intended to be a spot repair but change orders allowed for more extensive work to be done. Steve Ivas asked if any abutters had issue with the work being done and Jack McInnis reported that residents were very accommodating.

7. Water demand update provided by Jack McInnis: 1.4 or 1.5 pumped, water levels are stable and Indian Head is up allowing for a substantial cushion before we have to move to next tier of water restrictions.
8. Jack McInnis has both a Ford F150 and Ford F350 with utility body and plow on order and due to arrive in approx. 8-10 weeks' time.
9. A new MRX was purchased for the next reading cycle which interfaces with the meter reading laptop computer; this will show accounts and split screen view of map and roads. All meters will show green indicating the reading was obtained, failed meters will turn red; allowing the meter reader to move closer to attempt to capture the read. The new equipment will not be utilized until the new meter reader is hired and can be trained on the equipment.
10. Hiring Update: Jack McInnis met with Barbara Childs this week, she is using Indeed and Zip Recruiter – they had only three candidates for the meter reader opening that were viable. Barbara Childs indicated typically this is not a good time of year for hiring. Jack McInnis also suggested they could look at prior batches of old resumes but Fred St. Ours suggested that if they were viable candidates they would likely be already employed. Steve



Ivas asked what are the next steps? Barbara Childs will restructure the postings and provide another list of candidates to Allen Perlin and Jack McInnis.

11. Jack McInnis advised this morning a backwash was being done when Donna Snow called from the office to alert Jack McInnis and Allen Perlin to a water quality issue from residents originating from Grove Street, but not isolated to Grove Street. Donna Snow received calls from 6 residents and a walk in from one resident. Since 4pm yesterday afternoon people had water from Well #10 and started posting to social media with water quality concerns. Jack McInnis provided an explanation this morning about demand and tank maintenance work and posted to the Norwell Water Facebook page and it was shared to Norwell Social by a resident. Fred St. Ours suggested preparing something that will be readily available for the next situation since most times the instructions to residents are the same with respect to discolored water. Normally Fred St. Ours suggested residents refrain from laundry, but drinking and cooking is still permitted. Jack McInnis noted as soon as Well #10 was shut off so did the resident complaints. Fred St. Ours said it is not a health problem when water is discolored it is only aesthetics people can still cook and drink the water.
12. The Wednesday night storm (7/17/19) affected various pieces of equipment which are detailed as follows: Well #2 the analogue output lightning arrestors were damaged. The Grove Street CC had the following items damaged: Adtech analogue to digital convertor for well field flow meter, PLC input & output modules, Analogue output lightning arrestors, ATI CL2 Analyzer, ATI ph analyzer. The systems integrator is coming tomorrow to help provide solutions for the damaged equipment. Some equipment was placed for overnight order as well. Jack McInnis is keeping Well #10 off and he would rather implement restrictions than to use Well #10. Well #2 & #5 provides good quality water.

13. All present at the meeting worked on a revision to the Facebook post, deleting the original posting from today and replacing it with something more accurate and representative of the lightning strike which initially was not thought to be the cause of the water quality issues.

14. Fred St Ours motioned to adjourn; Steve Ivas seconded; all in favor at 6:18 pm.

Accepted: S. Stumpf-Lus Date: 01 Aug 19