

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 7th, 2019

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Department
345 Main Street, Norwell

In Attendance: Steve Ivas, Peter Dillon, Fred St. Ours, and Water Superintendent Jack McInnis

Minutes Prepared By: Donna Snow

1. The Board members signed abatements, commitments and vouchers.
2. Glenn Ferguson met with the board and spoke briefly about the new/improved electrical lines that were installed under Shrine Road. They ran 4,000 feet of electrical line in just six days utilizing new technology. Glenn Ferguson advised the line is placed at the same depth as the water line. Steve Ivas asked who the contractor was; Glenn Ferguson noted it was Henley Electric out of CT.
3. Glenn Ferguson in the past had met with the BOWC at the end of the summer to discuss and request reimbursement for road excavations this year he is late in making his request. Glenn Ferguson noted approximately 12 excavations to date including: Lincoln Street, May Elm, Mt. Blue, Cross Street, Till Rock Lane, and Circuit Street to name a few. Both Glenn Ferguson and Jack McInnis agreed on a 30k contribution which was explained as follows: 2k for each of the (12) excavations and another 1k for half of them (6) which required a second visit; for a total contribution of 30k. Glenn Ferguson explained that an outside company would likely charge 2-3k for each excavation to repave and feels NWD is saving money by utilizing NHD for these repairs noting some of the repairs such as the break at Town Hall are bigger than others.
4. The second matter for discussion with Glenn Ferguson was the use of the Highway yard for dumping material by NWD. Glenn Ferguson lowered his request from 15k last year to 12k this year to take care of the material coming in and out of the yard. If the BOWC approves Glenn Ferguson requests a transfer to the Highway Remediation Article. Fred St. Ours asked

Glenn Ferguson how soon he was looking for the reimbursement; Glenn Ferguson reiterated that typically he had requested this transfer in July. Fred St. Ours motioned to transferred 12k to NHD as discussed, all in favor at 5:25pm. Jack McInnis noted it will come from the Leaks and New Services budget line item. Peter Dillon suggested creating a line item in the Water Department budget that this money comes out of each year, but Fred St. Ours was fine with it coming from Leaks and New Services.

5. Glenn Ferguson explained recent work done by National Grid resulted in sub-contractors who did not know NWD was NOT part of dig safe and they set 8-9 poles with no mark out. As a result National Grid drilled through the water main on Cape Cod Lane. Peter Dillon asked why NWD is not part of dig safe. Glenn Ferguson advised the subcontractors are from out of state, therefore unaware and interested only in restoring National Grid service. Norwell had twelve poles down; and only some streets like Lincoln Street were properly marked. Peter Dillon believes the trees need to be trimmed back rather than moving utilities underground. Fred St. Ours asked is there a way to determine the health of a tree; Glenn Ferguson noted that he is getting better at it explaining that Scituate Norwell and Cohasset were hit the hardest in the last storm. Glenn Ferguson stated some things to consider are: road salt, lack of infrastructure and the number of days with 90 degree heat as just a few things that are killing the trees in our community and surrounding areas. Additionally, Glenn Ferguson stated the trees are not National Grid's; the trees are the responsibility of the town to manage and maintain.
6. Fred St. Ours motioned to approve Meeting Minutes from 10/3/19; Peter Dillon seconded, all in favor at 5:45pm.
7. Steve Ivas informed the board that at Town Hall Redevelopment discussion on 10/16/19 it was suggested NWD would move to the third floor and NWD would fund it, this would

include an elevator near the Accounting Office. The BOWC was not in favor of this suggestion.

8. Jack McInnis provided an update on the Tank Rehabilitation Project: the Phillip Tank exterior walls are $\frac{3}{4}$ painted with finish paint and all they need are some dry days to finish exterior. Jack McInnis explained the paint system they are using is unlike the paint they used on the other tanks.
9. New hire trainee position update: Jack McInnis has reached out to Barbara Childs for a new group of candidates which they will soon filter through and arrange interviews with.
10. The Fall Water Flushing Program – Jack McInnis advised tonight is the last night for flushing. Pine Street and Circuit Street will not be done and distribution staff will pick up again in the spring.
11. Discussion of backflow prevention invoices – currently the tests cost \$70 per device. Water Safety Services tests RPZ devices every six months and for double check valve assembly it is done annually. Norwell Water had 4-5 delinquent accounts; Jack McInnis noted he did not want to threaten shut off notices. The bills initially did not have a due date on them, but we have requested they add a due date and Steve Ivas suggested due in 30 days. Jack McInnis advised the device was tested and passed, Peter Dillon however explained we can threaten not to test the device anymore due to non-payment and then they would not be in compliance as a result. Once the company is not in compliance it would be reasonable to shut off water. Peter Dillon said delinquent accounts should pay arrears and then pay upfront for the next test, if not adhered to their service will be disconnected. Two outstanding invoices exist for Clean Harbors \$280, and Jiffy Lube \$70. If they do not pay they must pre-pay for next test and should result in a shut off for non-payment.
12. Peter Dillon motioned to adjourn; Fred St. Ours seconded; all in favor at 5:55 pm.

Accepted: Steve P. Ivas Date: 21 NOV 19