

20 Aug 20 - Norwell Water Commission Notes

Present: J. McInnis (JM), F. St. Ours (FSO), P. Dillon (PD), and S. Ivas (SI).

1. **Via Microsoft Teams, Conference ID 115 772 300.**
2. **Previous Minutes.** SI made a motion to approve the minutes of 16 Jul 20 and 06 Aug 20, FSO seconded, and it was voted unanimously at 5:18 PM.
3. **Pb and Cu sample kits.** JM reported that sample kits with door hangers and instruction kits were delivered to 40 residents this past Tuesday. Advance letters had been forwarded. D. Gage picked up 27 sample bottle today, three (3) had not filled out chain of custody correctly, they had left out when the water had been last used. These were added to the samples. Called eight additional, got three commitments, from residents for Friday 21 Aug or Monday 24 Aug.

Will need from two schools / day care centers, Bright Horizons and Kindercare.

Results will be available in two weeks. JM noted that pH levels are good throughout the Town, was about 7.5 Units at the extremes of the distribution system.

FSO made a suggestion to have samples form the alternative sites. JM noted that the primary and some alternative sites were sampled.

4. **Informational - Leak Detection Survey.** Carl Sopper, Inc. Is currently doing a leak detection survey of the entire Town. The regulations require a leak survey every three years. Had three proposals, this one less money, and lower technology (not ultrasonic), however this company has been very efficient, they can hear service leak 400 feet away.

Some of the examples where they have found leaks include:

- Circuit Street at a coupling repair, replaced with a different coupling;
- South St. Feed to Cushing Hill Rd - tapping sleeve and valve, leaking out back side of tapping sleeve; a piece of curbing had to be taken out; and
- Water service leak off Main Street - also needed to take out a piece of curbing.

Sopper will provide a report, and the Department will then work on the leaks.

FSO suggested that they should pay particularly close attention to Meadowbrook Road, (where we had a large main break a couple of years ago).

5. **Excavation Services Bid.** JM reported that Jeff Curry is retiring on 01 Dec 20. He is in the process of preparing to sell his machinery, and moving to ME.

There was a consensus among Dept. Members that Mr. Curry had been an excellent team member, often getting off the equipment to assist in excavations (outside his task description, but very helpful). The comment was made that there will be a big change for the staff without Mr. Curry's assists.

The schedule of opening up bids by mid-November was discussed. JM will prepare a bid package for contractors, and place it on the various websites.

There was a discussion of how to conduct the bids, and a mention of perhaps using the Osborne Room was made.

The bid effort will be as soon as the Pb / Cu program is completed. JM noted that the overtime is being removed from the bid package, with a minimum call-out of four (4) hours.

6. **Water Demand and Restrictions.** JM reported that the August trend to date (since the last meeting) has been downward, yesterday was 1.075 mgd. Letters were sent out to the highest users, and this may have assisted.

A discussion of monitoring wells around #1 static water levels that are extant, and data that may be available. JM said that the calculation of specific capacity is difficult, due to programming issues. He noted that the wells are being kept five feet above the screen, and the speed of the vertical line shaft turbine has been slowed down at #6, e.g., to maintain comfortable water levels. The rate at #1 has been dropped to about 250 g/min from 350 g/min, and Well # 10 had been dropped from 300 to 200 gpm, and #6 at 225 g/min. Now Well #10 at 300 gpm, mixed enough with #2 and #5, with no color complaints.

Well #6 pumping at 275 g/min now, tweaked chemical feed, 1.3 mgd through Rx plant before backwash, which uses about 40,000 gallons.

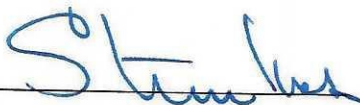
JM summarized by noting that we may be through the worst of the drought if the weather cooperates and people stop managing lawns.

7. **Additional Business:**

JM reported that the LaViolette Co. Is removing all the temporary patches to the system after the storm damage, and has replaced much of the temporary equipment. Was in for a full day with four people.

The meeting was **adjourned at 5:55 PM**, with a motion by FSO, a second by SI, and a unanimous vote.

Signed

 Date: 23 Sep 20