

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

Date: 17 Dec 20

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water

Department

345 Main Street. Norwell

Attendance: Peter Dillon (PD), Fred St. Ours (FSO), Steve Ivas (SI) and Jack McInnis (JM),
Superintendent

Minutes Prepared by: Steve Ivas

1. All parties were present in a remote environment via Microsoft Teams.
2. **Minutes of 03 Dec 20.** FSO motioned, and SI seconded to accept the minutes of 03 Dec 20, and it was voted unanimously at 4:38 PM.
3. **Update: PFAs Testing.** PD contacted J. Hobel (JH) earlier this week, and JH said that a work order would be provided tomorrow, 18 Dec 20, and the test bottles will be delivered in January. FSO asked who is paying. The first round and any duplicates will be supported by the State. Results should be available by mid-February. JH thought that we will not have negative results here in Norwell, due to the pervious soils. (Soils adjacent to water supplies are much more transmissive then tight soils.)
4. **Status - South Street Treatment Plant Instrumentation Repair.** JM explained that the clearwell overflow was the result of a transducer failure. It was able to be used while a new transducer was being prepared. The replacement includes a stop level at eight (8) feet, and a start level at five (5) feet. LaViolette and company were required to assist in replacing the technology for this transducer with a 4-20 milliamp output. They were able to calibrate the broken equipment in order to be able to use it.
5. **Final Winter Round of Pilot Testing.** JM explained that we conducted the final round of Pilot Testing for TOCs, Fe, Mn, and UV254 (measures organic matter in water). THMs, HAAs also being measured. At the Treatment Plant, sending day 1 samples to lab, then pouring off (decanting) water at 3, 5, 7, and 10 day periods - simulating water in the Town system, to evaluate the formation of the complex compounds. The company S2Olsen Engineering, a subcontractor to Ginivan, will be providing a report, perhaps to decrease THMs, HAAs, and PFAs, with GAC (Granular Activated Carbon).
6. **Tier 1 Signs Up.** JM reported that FSO was phrophetic at the last Water Commission meeting when he suggested that the higher Tier signs be replaced with Tier 1 signs (Item #9 on the minutes of 03 Dec 20). The entire state is in mild drought as of a meeting earlier in the week. The restriction is water conservation.

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7. **Staffing Treatment Facilities Manager Position.** JM said that B. Childs has some applicants for the position. He noted that he is thinking of filling it with someone who has more field experience, rather than administration-heavy skills. He added that a field-experienced person can be trained to assist Marc Spinella regarding routine maintenance and upgrades to pump stations. He noted that our plant is 25 years old, and the chemical feed station at Washington Street and Well 10 are also getting old.
8. **Snow Removal today.** JM said that the NWD staff did a tremendous job at snow removal. John McGloin was in last night at 9:30 PM until 3:30 PM this afternoon. Everyone else but Mark went to assist the Highway Department. Kudos to Marc and John for keeping an eye on things, he said.
9. **General Discussion regarding Fund Balances and Town Meeting.** JM noted that he had been talking with the Finance Director/Town Accountant recently, and he had noted that the Surplus Revenue Account has money for the Cross-Highway Water Main and the Pilot Study, however it may bring it down to about \$400K. There was additional discussion regarding the close-out for FY 2020. He noted that any modification of existing treatment systems will probably be bonded. JM said that he would like to see the balance sheets,, which should be available, now or soon, for FY 2020. FSO said that he would like to see the balance sheets as well, and suggested that the Commission should consider a consultant to perform a rate study, noting that the breakpoints (for the various steps in rates) may be modified, and should be analyzed to ascertain if they are the most efficient breakpoints.
10. **Next Meeting. 07 Jan 2021.**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by FSO, seconded by SI, and voted unanimously at 5: 11 PM.



08 Jan 21