

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

Date: January 13, 2022

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Dept.  
345 Main Street, Norwell

Present: Fred St. Ours, Peter Dillon and Steve Ivas (by phone).  
Prepared by: Donna Snow

1. The minutes of 12/16 and 12/27 were voted unanimously with a motion by Steve Ivas and seconded by Fred St. Ours at 4:40 PM.
2. A discussion was held regarding the water connection fee for Kings Landing residents. Fred St. Ours stated the connection fee is \$2,000 with no additional discount. Steve Ivas made a motion to approve, Peter Dillon seconded, all in favor at 4:41pm. Steve Ivas also motioned to reimburse \$1,000 to the resident at 81 Kings Landing that had overpaid for his connection fee, Peter Dillon seconded the motion, all in favor at 4:47pm. Donna Snow will follow up with the resident at 70 Kings Landing to remit payment for the service that was recently installed. No meter has been installed but the service line has been inspected.
3. PFAs Public Notice Discussed – During the meeting the proof arrived via email and Donna Snow noted a spelling error, when meeting concluded she planned to send correction to Tom Kennedy.
4. PFAS Treatment Modifications discussed: Peter Dillon advised to put all treatment components outside on a slab because costs are currently out of control. The Board agreed changes can be made later with the building; and he noted GAC also may not be the final treatment answer. Fred St. Ours explained that 20 ppt is just one ounce in a year, which illustrates how low the threshold is. Peter Dillon reported speaking to the Town Administrator who noted we will have available funding for PFAs treatment both this year and next year which is good news. Peter Dillon concluded stating PFAS results from well 1 & well 6 are needed from Alpha Analytical.
5. Budget/Special Articles Discussed: Money will be needed for an outside building. Two articles need to be drafted which are due on 1/26/22; one for PFAs and the other for well exploration. Donna Snow will obtain language from the last articles that the Water Department submitted and share with the Board. Budget Planning: An increase will be needed for Professional Services due to ongoing PFAS sampling and possibly other line items.
6. Department Positions: The Board unanimously supports a grade increase for the Sr. Administrative Assistant, this change will align with the growing need for regular communication from the Department relative to wells, PFAS testing and other resident concerns. The Board had met twice recently to review the job description and duties performed. The upcoming budget should include funding for this grade change.

7. Their was discussion about changing Facilities Manager position to Assistant Superintendent, this is an open item. Peter Dillon suggested an interim Superintendent for the next few weeks during Jack McInnis's absence due to illness. This interim position could be part time just to ensure things run smoothly in the Department.
8. The Annual statistical report needs to be done as well as the Annual Town Report, both Peter Dillon and Fred St. Ours offered to help with both reports.
9. An easement for the Water Department is located at 39 Judges Hill, the resident Lyn Cannon was present tonight to provide a history relative to his ongoing concerns. His home is on the left at the end of Judges Hill. Mr. Cannon noted a fiber optic communication cable was placed through the easement to the fire tower. Three years ago, he met with many Town officials and was promised the easement would be paved. Mr. Cannon has lived at this location for 27 years and shared with Fred St. Ours and Peter Dillon pictures which illustrate the drainage issues which has undermined the condition of the roadway. Peter Dillon added that springs in the area will also complicate matters. Steve Ivas noted with climate change things won't improve anytime soon. Fred St. Ours suggested we talk to Highway Director Glenn Ferguson for his opinion on what to do. Peter Dillon thinks an engineer would be needed to swale the land and send water away from the property. Maps were jointly reviewed, and Mr. Cannon pointed out catch basin and drainage areas. In addition to the deteriorating access point, he noted the Water Department staff unlocks the gate to plow for a storm, but they do not lock it afterwards. Peter Dillon admitted that Grove Street is also an issue with ensuring gates are staying closed. Both Mt. Hope and Mt. Blue provide two other access points. Mt. Blue is currently being maintained by Gallagher since a new home was built. Fred St. Ours noted the road needs repair however it would continue to be a conduit for water. Peter Dillon suggested gates similar to what Highway installed, which are operated on a keypad. The Board members can readily speak with Andy Reardon relative to past discussions. Both Fred St. Ours and Peter Dillon offered to speak to both the Water Superintendent and Distribution Mechanics. Peter Dillon feels the road needs to be asphalt as other materials will wash away. Resident stated one easement was removed under a condition of him buying the property. Fred St. Ours and Peter Dillon offered to go look at the area and all access points after they do some homework and would later follow up with Mr. Cannon. Mr. Cannon provided his phone and email so the office can follow up.

Steve Ivas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:42 PM, seconded by Peter Dillon.

Accepted: 

Date: 1/27/22