

**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: April 21, 2022

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Dept.
365 South Street, Norwell

Present: Fred St. Ours, Peter Dillon, Steve Ivas and Interim Water Superintendent
Jason Federico and Water Foreman Steve Gatanti

Prepared by: Donna Snow

1. Meeting Minutes: Minutes from 4/7/22 were held over until next meeting.
2. April Commitment: Revenue is down from prior years likely due to early water restrictions, and a wet summer. Fred St. Ours suggested it is time to consider a rate change. Jason Federico shared projections on revenue and still needs to incorporate the final monthly commitments and the monthly abatements which offset revenue. The capital plan is also something Jason is working on.
3. Bid Award for SSTP Vessels: Jason Federico advised that the bid cannot be awarded until after Town Meeting.
4. Septic Design for SSTP: Board reviewed documents Jason Federico sent and agree with the proposal.
5. Fill Station Update: A yard hydrant at Grove Street has been installed, this is located at the walking trail. Fred St. Ours asked how fast a gallon fills, Peter Dillon noted a flow restrictor can be added if necessary. Jason Federico asked how the Board would like to announce the fill station and will check with Hanover to see how they notified residents. Steve Gatanti suggested adding stone, so the area does not become mud soaked.
6. Facility Tour: The Board toured both buildings, and the Lagoons were inspected. Renovations were discussed for long term to include a garage for department vehicles. Jason Federico noted the SSTP should have two meters, right now only one meter exists. A large amount of meter inventory was observed. Steve Gatanti noted 12 meters can be installed a day. Jason advised the meter reader will be replacing broken and old meters routinely.


Items Not Anticipated:

- **Laurelwood Drive fire suppression:** The developer is asking for 2 hydrants; Board needs to consider cost and deed restrictions for irrigation. The plan shows five lots in Scituate. Scituate is currently planning on a 51-million-dollar water treatment plant. Paul Maribito is asking for hydrant water not domestic water; he would like to attend the meeting in May to discuss further. Jason Federico said we should consider what the cost would be.
- **High Street Water Pressure Update:** A valve was ordered which will arrive in 4-6 weeks' time. Jason Federico wants to meter the water coming in and out in the

future. These changes to Phillips Drive will help resolve water pressure issues in the High Street area. Jason Federico has concerns regarding when the valve was last exercised, Steve Gatanti confirmed that it had been a long time. The correction to the valve is the first part in fixing water pressure in this area. The pumps run based on water pressure in the system.

- Hydrant Inventory: Steve Gatanti said we have enough hydrants now.
- 214A Washington Street water meter: Jason Federico noted it is not to code and has not been operating correctly for a while. The meter will be replaced at a cost of 6k, Fred St. Ours asked how the usage is billed; it is a commercial account, so they are not billed at the highest tier.
- Jason Federico asked for Facilities Upgrades/Status to be a permanent agenda item
- Well 7: This well needs to be turned back on.
- South Street Treatment Plant update: Jason Federico advised it will be online next week. The long-term plan is to have a bottle fill station that is winterized. Peter Dillon asked do we need to utilize during the winter; Jason Federico advised the winterization is just for worst case scenario. The alarms and testing for South Street Treatment Plant will be done tomorrow and the plan is to turn on the plant for Monday. Jason Federico and Steve Gatanti discussed flushing which will be done before the plant is back online. Jason Federico will need to prepare an advisory which we can share to residents prior to conducting flushing work.
- Well 4: water sample shared with Board; color is not horrible but not entirely clear; slight color.
- Well 1: water sample shared with Board; water is clear in color; looks good.
- Well 11: Jason Federico advised Frank Sullivan will be pumping this well.
- Leak Detection Pricing: Jason Federico noted we flat line during the middle of the day indicating a leak exists and he has reached out to leak detection companies and one of them is available to start end of month. One quote was for 10k to do the entire town, last time we had this work performed it was 12k. Jason Federico will decide soon on who to select.
- The leak detection report that was reviewed this week and needs to be further investigated.
- Grove Street Generator: The Gas company needs to reply before the generator is ordered.

Fred St. Ours made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM, seconded by Peter Dillon.

Accepted:  Date: 5/5/22