



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 2, 2023

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Dept.
345 Main Street, Norwell

Present: Fred St. Ours, Peter Dillon and Howard Tufts & Water Superintendent Jason Federico

Prepared by: Donna Snow

Meeting Minutes:

Fred St. Ours motioned to approve the meeting minutes of October 20th; Peter Dillon seconded all in favor at 4:34pm. Fred St. Ours motioned to approve the meeting minutes of January 19th; Peter Dillon seconded, all in favor at 4:37pm

Abatement for 310 Main Street:

Jason Federico explained the abatement for 310 Main Street is a new meter that was put in as a yard hydrant for the Highway Department. Peter Dillon motioned to approve the abatement, Fred St. Ours seconded, all in favor at 4:32pm

The Oaks-40B Project:

Jason Federico shared the plans with the Board, and he will provide updated specifications that need to be posted on the website.

Quarter 3 Commitment:

The January commitment is higher than normal, likely due to the water rate increase that took effect. Fred St. Ours noted the summer bills will be more noticeable when demand is higher. Jason Federico offered to review rates again once we have an entire year of billing with the new rates. Fred St. Ours thinks another reminder about the rate increase will be helpful before summer bills are issued, the opportunity would be for an insert in April.

Metering Equipment:

Jason Federico advised the belt clip data loggers were purchased but they were never actually implemented. The staff was trained this week on how to use it and residents will be able to see the information on the iPad in real time. Right now, we can show residents a 90-day history of water use with an interrogation. Jason Federico discussed a fixed network which would ping every meter in town every minute, and would allow residents to sign up to be alerted to a water leak in real time. Residents do not have to pay for that service, and this would be great for people who are snowbirds and away for the winter. In the future, water meters can read pressure and temperature, our meters have these chips in them now Jason Federico explained.

Clerk/Meter Reader/Installer & Distribution Position:

The current meter reader has resigned to take a position in a neighboring town. Jason Federico has made a request to reduce the position from full time down to part time (20 hrs.) and remove the installer portion of the job. Jason Federico explained his intention is to keep it as a benefited position. Jason Federico explained technology has made it so that the meters can be read in two days, the burden of the work is administrative now, the collection piece is automated. It has been a long time since water readings were manual therefore alleviating a lot of the work that was once part of the meter reading. Jason Federico also explained an opening exists for a Distribution Trainee to replace Rob Glennon.

NSRWSA Zoom Call:

Fred St. Ours was pleased with how the zoom call went and Jason Federico noted about 100 people were on the zoom call.

Update of KMNO4:

Jason Federico advised that another seven barrels of KMN04 came in this week. Jason Federico shared that the DEP sent an email asking what a supply status was just today.

Items Not Anticipated:

- Fred St. Ours proposed cleaning up the frontage on Washington Street to improve the appearance from the street. The Board might consider some of this area could be a garden/park as a memorial to Jack McInnis. Jason Federico confirmed Iaria Brothers could do the work possibly towards the end of the fiscal year. Peter Dillon asked what about an electronic gate to be installed at this location.
- The Board discussed the recent vote for a new Town Hall at Longwater Drive, it did not pass the recent vote by residents on January 23rd.

Fred St. Ours made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 PM, seconded by Peter Dillon.

Accepted: J.H. Stepan Date: 2/16/23