

BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS  
166 John Scott Blvd., Norton MA 02766  
July 9, 2019

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**Meeting called to order: 6:33 pm, at Water/Sewer Building 166 John Scott Blvd, Norton MA**

**Commissioners:**

Luke Grant, Steve Bishop and Scott Ollerhead present. Also, present Superintendent Frank Fournier, Barbara Cook, Fran Yanuskiewicz and Steve Pederson from Weston & Sampson.

**Superintendent Updates:**

Superintendent Frank Fournier first welcomed Kevin Bernardo, the new minutes recording secretary.

Work stoppage at Wheaton College based on limitations of mark outs. Superintendent Fournier stated they are not allowed to mark on private property due to liability issues, and the same follows for Dig Safe and independent contractors. Superintendent Fournier asked the Board for permission to assist with the mark outs based on knowledge the Department has, but the concern remains with the liability and could a letter be drafted that would release the Department from liability, for Wheaton College's review and signature. Superintendent Fournier further added, with a wide range of utilities in the ground the potential is great to have a mismark and there are a few plans available and no plans for Wheaton College. Steve Pederson stated the contractor has a private utility location company coming out to locate the utilities, however Dig Safe will not mark on private property. Commissioner Steve Bishop inquired about Dig Safe's responsibilities. Commissioner Luke Grant suggested that the Department mark out based on what they know (water, sewer & fire circulation). Steve Pederson stated the electric is needed the most and that the gas is marked. After a lengthy discussion regarding marking all utilities, Dig Safe, private utilities and Wheaton College issuing the work stoppage, Commissioner Luke Grant suggested a letter of disclaimer stating it is private property and to do our best with the information the Department has to assist, with the importance on safety and continued operation. It was decided to send a letter.

Superintendent Fournier stated that he was looking to get the bid out for the Holmes Street water main replacement project, possibly on 8/7/19 or 8/8/19 and list it on COMMBUYS. To do so it would have to be listed by Thursday 7/11/19. The bid opening would be at Water/Sewer Building 166 John Scott Blvd, Norton MA 02766. The Board agreed to post.

The Master Plan meeting update: A few projects will be scuffled around based on time of the project and cost. Once that is done Weston & Sampson will complete the final draft. The ball park number for the 20 year improvement was based on an average of \$2,000,000 for an annual cost (water pipe).

Superintendent Fournier stated that they are looking at problem areas first, with one being the Old Taunton Ave, with old trolley tracks & concrete underneath the pavement. The cost to remove that is more substantial then replacing the main. Some exploratory work may need to get done. Barbara Cook stated the important thing on the Master Plan is when they see the results of the rate study, if the \$2,000,000 a year makes the rate and there is something not liked then at that time it would be reassessed.

Lead & copper samples have been completed. There was a delay in retrieving some samples as expected. DEP approval was needed to take non approved sites as the samples and that would require going back at a later date to make sure it meets the criteria. Samples were based on age of property. Superintendent Fournier stated the results seem to be on track with everything else that was sampled previously. People are simply refusing to do them. Superintendent Fournier is working with DEP to have multiple additional sites. Additional discussion took place regarding the number of samples, results, PH levels and notifications.

Iron and Manganese sample results are in with a few locations over the DEP action level. Which triggers a public notification be distributed.

Superintendent Fournier stated these levels are the reason for a new treatment plant. With the new plant going on line and water main cleaning & flushing we anticipate the sample results numbers will trend back down.

**North Cottage – sprinkler lines:**

Contractor Bob Salvo and Jeremiah from North Cottage plan to install sprinklers at the Annex building and the first step is to come before the Board (tie in). A discussion took place regarding plans, pipe size, flow test and the Boards previous determination based on one building one tap ( two buildings, two taps) for overall water quality and fire suppression. A lengthy discussion continued regarding the original permit for 75 & 75 ½ property buildings and an outstanding fee of \$31,750 from 2013. Commissioner Luke Grant stated he would follow up regarding the past fee and would have a determination with-in two weeks (next meeting). Agenda item tabled.

Before the Weston & Sampson reported Commissioner Luke Grant asked if the septic work at the treatment work continues. Francis Yanuskiewicz stated it has & Superintendent Fournier added that moving forward retention basins for storm water runoff should be in first, however some sites might be more restrictive and sometimes that is not always the case.

**Weston & Sampson Report: Drinking water**

Barbara Cook presented the FY 2020 Drinking Water General Engineering Services contract for review and potential signatures. The scope of the service is basically the same, such as meeting assistance, developer project review and additional water related services. The rates have increased slightly from \$0.00 to \$10.00 an hour. A couple by \$5.00 an hour, a couple by \$10.00 and one by \$0.00.

Motion made by Commissioner Steve Bishop to approve the 2020 Drinking Water General Engineering Services from Weston & Sampson as written. Commissioner Scott Ollerhead seconded the motion.  
All in favor:

Luke Grant – aye  
Steve Bishop – aye  
Scott Ollerhead – aye  
So, Voted.

**Memorandum of Agreement:**

Barbara Cook presented the MOA between the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Town of Norton MA, with the corrected typo and the only other change was SRF will not be a party to this agreement.

Motion made by Commissioner Steve Bishop to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Town of Norton MA, for the Norton Water Treatment Plant Project. Commissioner Scott Ollerhead seconded the motion.  
All in favor:

Luke Grant – aye  
Steve Bishop – aye  
Scott Ollerhead – aye  
So, Voted.



In closing her report on drinking water, Barbara Cook briefly touched on PFAS, but it was decided to discuss it later. Barbara did recommend requesting additional information from the lab that took those samples.

**Water Treatment Facility:**

Methuen Construction invoice # 13 for the Water Treatment Facility in the amount of \$906,269.27 was signed by the Board.

**Weston & Sampson Report: Wastewater**

Steven Pederson stated we have authorization to start work. All approvals are in place. Commissioner Luke Grant/Chairman signed the notice to proceed.

Steven Pederson presented the Wastewater Annual Agreement for the Boards review and signature.

West Main St. Sewer Project: DHCD the funding agency increased the amount the Norton Housing Authority's share from \$1,141,000 to \$1,578,000. An amendment needed for the connection agreement (the amount and timing). Scott Ollerhead made the motion to accept the changes made to the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment agreement for the Norton Housing Authority West Main St. Project. Steve Bishop seconded the motion.

All in favor:

Luke Grant – aye

Steve Bishop – aye

Scott Ollerhead – aye

So, Voted.

**Announcement:**

Commissioner Luke Grant mentioned that some complaints have been circling on social media regarding the Free Water Dispenser and its appearance (algae in the drain area). He stated if anyone does have concerns please contact the water department instead of social media and any concerns will be addressed in a timely manner. He also mentioned once the department was aware of an issue in less than one hour the representative from Blue drop was on site to remedy the situation.

**Pine Village Condominium Association:**

Daniel Couture, Board President of Pine Village Condominium Association addressed the Board regarding the sewer connections. Mr. Couture explained the current septic system at Pine Village and stated the current system was in good operation. His concern was the \$192,000 for Pine Village tie in and he was seeking relief. Commissioner Luke Grant explained that everyone has to be tied in with-in 5 years and explained the cost to upgrade a new septic system would not be inexpensive. He went to assist and explain the betterment program that can run for 20 years. Francis Yanuskiewicz explained low interest rates and added a State septic tax credit can also be available (up to \$1,500 per year for 4 years). Francis Yanuskiewicz stated he would compile some information for Mr. Couture.

**Next meeting July 23, 2019**

Motion to adjourn made Commissioner Steve Bishop, Commissioner Scott Ollerhead seconded the motion.

All in favor:

Luke Grant – aye

Steve Bishop – aye

Scott Ollerhead – aye

So, voted.

8:26 p.m.



# TOWN OF NORTON

Water & Sewer Department

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BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD: July 9, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Bernardo, Minutes Recorder

Luke Grant, Chairman

Steve Bishop, Clerk

Scott Ollerhead, Member