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**BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS**  
**166 John Scott Blvd., Norton MA 02766**  
**January 14, 2020**

**Meeting called to order: 6:35 pm**

**Attendance:**

Commissioners: Luke Grant, Scott Ollerhead present.

Superintendent: Frank Fournier

Weston & Sampson: Steve Pederson, Tara McManus

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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**Superintendent Updates**

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Mr. Fournier began a conversation with the Board about the Water Departments Cottage St. elevated water tank, a welded steel tank constructed in the 1950's. Which is used as a base for cellular antennas. The Town has implemented an RFP (request for proposals) for movement on the elevated tank to priority positions based on lease revenue. A copy of the Town's RFP was given to the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners for review.

Mr. Fournier mentioned this tank has been a topic of discussion at previous meetings pertaining to choices of either spending a large sum of money to sand, prime and paint the structure or to possibly look at options to replace the tank with a new one. Currently the coating is weathered but sound, we will address this in the near future,

Mr. Fournier explained to the Board he is working to finalize the FY21 budget.

**Water Capital**

we are adding one 4x4 pick-up truck. The car that the water department currently utilizes will remain in use for meter reading, sample collection and transportation to training events.

Continued discussion about the Water Capital Budget Fournier explained the final phases of the replacement Wells #5 and #6.

Currently we have found two promising replacement well locations, the work up to this point has been covered under the cost of phase 1 and phase 2 approximately \$100,000.00. To continue the process, we need to fund phases 3,4, and 5.

Phase 3 is an estimated \$520,000.00

Phase 4 is and estimated \$ 80,000.00

Phase 5 is an estimated \$650,000.00

for a total of \$1.250,000.00

Fournier reminded the Board that we asked for and were granted approval to use the remaining funds from the Reservoir St. water main project at town meeting this money was to be used for similar projects the remaining amount is \$457,808.63 that originally came from the water departments retained earnings. This would lower the total cost amount to \$792,191.37.

A discussion with the Board began to determine our best possible option either borrow the \$800,000.00 or use retained earning to fund the project. After discussion the Board members felt the best option would be to borrow the approximately \$800,000.00 to not deplete the retained earnings account.

## **Sewer Capital**

A discussion continued with the FY21 capital requests. Mr. Fournier explained to the Board the need for emergency generators and automatic transfer switches at three sewer pump stations. Currently there are older motor systems that operate during power outages. These systems run off a 12volt system that determines the wet well level and turns on the gas-powered motor that runs one pump to lower the wet well level. This motor does not generate electricity so the buildings have no lights or heat and have a limited run time on battery back up power.

We are waiting on the estimates to install all items as turn key if these amounts are known I will ask for at least one or more in the capital plan depending on total cost.

## **Christopher Damiano**

A resident from Dean St. came before the board to express his concern of wasting water by needing to run his garden hose to clear his service after a pipe breaks in the area.

The Board and Mr. Fournier explained that we need to be notified when customers experience dirty water so we can investigate and if necessary, flush the area. It was explained there is always a technician on call 24 hours 7 days a week.

## **BOH**

Representatives from the Norton Board of Health came before the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to discuss two residences that have exceeded the 5-year required sewer connection for the Newland St. area. A discussion continued with each homeowner. The Board explained the ultimate goal is to get both residences connected as soon as possible.

Each property has its own challenges. 145 potentially has no sewer stub left to the property they will propose plan to the board to explain where they would be able to make a connection based on separation from existing utilities.

133 will need to write a letter to the Board within 6 months to explain how they plan to proceed; this home was sold with no indication to the new owner that this sewer connection was required or has been required for 5 years.

## **Tara McManus**

Discussion with the Board of today's bid opening for the Pine St. Water Main Replacement project. There were 18 bidders on this project the results for the bids will be verified references and bonds will be verified once the low bidder is verified a letter of intent to award will be sent from the Norton Water and Sewer Superintendent to the low bidder. This project is expected to start in March 2020 off the road on Pine St. to construct water piping in a habitat sensitive area.

## **Tara McManus**

Water Treatment Plant Update



Operators have been working and training at the new facility this week learning the procedures and equipment the water is being pumped to waste to prove all of the processes, a round of water quality samples could be taken as early as the end of the week, once these samples have been taken the TAT (turn around time) from the laboratory can be up to 10 business days. Once the samples are approved DEP will be asked to set an appointment to review the facility verify all of the operator credentials and training, approve the operations, staff schedule and emergency policies. If everything is in order DEP is expected to grant the permit to run only when fully staffed for a given length of time.

### **Steve Pederson**

Mr. Pederson explained to the Board that the West Main St. Sewer project construction should start up again the work on the wet well could begin as early as next week. This excavation and construction of the wet well and sewer pump station will be on land adjacent to driveway at 120 West Main St.

We will be setting up a meeting with Mass DOT to discuss necessary changes to the road opening permit a few of the changes the contractor will be asking for is permission to work days permission to drill to the ledge either to prove the profile or to drill to blast which requires additional permits.

Continued discussion about the delays the contractor has had thus far and the anticipated delays going forward. These unforeseen delays come at a cost and there is a possibility of the project running over on a few line items one of which is the police details. The Board would like a placeholder for the town meeting should the possibility come up that the project cost may over run the previous cost estimate.

### **Next meeting January 28, 2020**

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Scott Ollerhead Luke Grant seconded the motion.

All in favor:

Luke Grant - aye

Scott Ollerhead - aye

8:15 p.m.



# TOWN OF NORTON

Water & Sewer Department

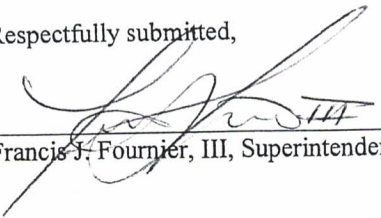
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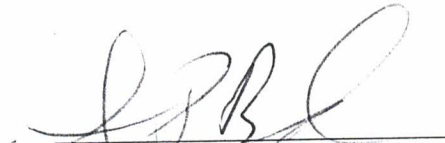
BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS


ACCEPTED AND APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD: 01/14/2020

Respectfully submitted,

  
Francis J. Fournier, III, Superintendent

  
Luke Grant, Chairman

  
Steve Bishop, Clerk

  
Scott Ollerhead, Member