

Norton Water/Sewer Commission's Meeting Minutes  
for

Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 6:30 pm

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Meeting Attendees:

Frank Fournier – Superintendent  
Luke Grant – Commissioner  
Steve Bishop – Commissioner  
Shane – Media Center  
Steve Pedersen – Weston & Sampson  
Tara McManus – Weston & Sampson

Meeting call started at 6:30.

Intros by each attendee.

Discussion on meeting outside in person in the near future if possible.

Superintendent Update (Frank) –

- Bottle collection for Lead and Copper sampling for MassDEP sampling. Anticipated slow turnaround with COVID but were able to collect enough samples which was great. Safe distancing and proper PPE by sampling crew. Schools and daycares usually a part of the program but as they are closed and access/adequate flushing unable to be completed, those were not sampled this round
- Well 5 – Generator is getting closer to operation. Perimeter secured to FD specs. Osterman Propane onsite today to fill both tanks. Fall Rive electric can now be scheduled to complete their remaining work.
- Fire retardant coating installed at the WTP around perimeter roof and hatches. Wooden stairs were removed and aluminum stairs replaced to meet FD and Building Requirements. Good to go
- MassDOT preconstruction conference call this morning for Route 123 East Main Street Project – contracts were delayed and still awaiting finalized schedules and official start date. Traffic lights at 495 were the starting point but may be delayed as galvanized piping for supports is delayed so other work may come first.

Weston & Sampson Sewer Update (Steve P) –

- West Main St Sewer Project – Contractor is onsite working now and hammering away at the ledge. They completed some piping and installation of a manhole plus some punch list work. Hammer broke down on Monday and new hammer arrived Wednesday. Seems more efficient making a little more progress than in the past. Noise is certainly an issue and resident complaints are coming in, especially resident adjacent to the site. Complaints coming in to the town and MassDOT. Conference call with MassDOT today to attempt to move the blasting permit forward. Contractor's sub (A1 Blasting) submitted blasting permit end of March and last week comments were received and working through them now with Contractor. Working with Contractor on how to answer questions and address comments. MassDOT agreed they would setup a meeting with their internal Geotech group who provided the majority of the comments to meet with Weston & Sampson and Contractor. Will have less rock to deal with when pipe depth comes up to only 8-feet but the deeper cuts will continue to hit rock. Luke – good news about Geotech meeting but seems to have taken a long time for review of the permit. Appreciate efforts to keep the ball moving. Attempt to get temporary permit or complete some work in smaller bites to at least get progress moving and prove to DOT process is ok. Steve – Yes, that's been discussed and will be brought up during the meeting with DOT's Geotech. Noise complaints – hammering will still be an issue. Discussions on a sound attenuating fencing to at least

help absorb the hammering noise. Rental agreements vs purchase. Steve B – viable options? Steve P – it will certainly help a bit but won't eliminate the noise. Luke – how high are these sound attenuating barriers? Hammer is pretty large and close to residents so sound is deflected up as much as over so it may not appease the noise complaints. Has anyone seen these? Frank – Some in Boston that you can walk by through temporary sidewalks and could hear a difference. Steve P – We have a quote and will talk to the field personnel. Will it do anything, at the very least it will show an effort. Luke – Contact rental company tomorrow and show us what you have and install it to show us how it works and see if it appeases the residents. If works, keep it for monthly rental and if it doesn't then pay for mobilization and costs to setup and remove. Really don't want to throw money away if it doesn't work. Steve P – That is certainly an option. Subcontractor has offered to put the matting up for a few days if someone else sets up the fencing and won't charge them for it. Would need to then pay the Contractor to get a fence and setup. Luke – if under \$5,000 Frank can authorize so see if we can't get something setup for Monday. Steve B – Ultimate status of blasting permit? Steve P – Need to address all comments and meet with DOT to confirm ok with responses. Luke – Plead with DOT to get this process moving forward. State reps contacted, calls made, really need to get this moving. One way or another need to know if this is going to be approved or further strung out. As far as mitigating noise, jumping around and then coming back seems like it will just piecemeal and delay – stay with linear fashion. If Contractor wants to bring a second crew, that works but really don't want a hodgepodge construction pathway. Fin Com meeting last night and another on Monday night. Steve P – Working on PowerPoint to summarize events and where we're at now to help provide more info to support article. Selectman's meeting on Thursday with same presentation. Received additional comments from FinCom and in the process of addressing them for Monday's presentation. Want to keep this project moving and be ready for the June 27<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting (football field at High School).

#### Other Items

Luke – Concerns with fee assessments for condos? Frank – Yes, units are being assessed individually and were unclear on why. Luke – State Title V dwelling assessment with minimum flow. Frank – Water/Sewer Dept will provide Rules and Regs for reference. Any other irons in the fire? Frank – no that about covers things.

#### Weston & Sampson Water Update (Tara) –

- WTP – Continue to make progress on the punch list. Keltic Painting completed their fire retardant coating installation, aluminum stairs installed, pavers coming likely next week to repair/replace cape cod berm and repair ponding areas, propane tanks filled so can schedule Fall River Electric back to the site to complete their work. Pay Estimate #23 submitted to Frank and the Commissioners. Discussed recycle tank leakage repairs. Luke – Request a surety bond from Methuen for say 5 years that the tank will not leak. Tara – will look into this.
- Pine St Water Main Project – Water main work is complete – final connection and Plain Street and all services have been transferred over. Trench is paved and service trenches have been loamed and seeded. Met with Con Com agent on Tuesday (6/9) and wattles and catch basin protection can be removed. Contractor wrapped up work on 6/5 so they will return in the next two weeks to remove the wattles, check on grass germination, and repair any disturbed loam and seed (one customer that has seen sunken loam which will also be repaired). Sept/Oct Contractor will return to complete final trench paving with the Town completing curb to curb overlay next year. Overall, successful project which wrapped up several months earlier than expected – less unsuitable material and ledge than anticipated so saved on Police Details and Engineering Services. Very good for a project that started just after COVID. Good coordination with all parties involved.
- Homes & East Main Water Main Project – Final trench paving likely scheduled for next Wed/Thurs (6/17 or 6/18) to complete that project.

- MassDOT Route 123 – As Frank mentioned pre-construction meeting was this morning and while we had hoped to discuss timing of water work and contractor's schedule, the schedule will likely not be available for a few more weeks.
- Wells 5 & 6 Replacement – Driller completed 8" test well drilling last week. They were able to drill an additional 26 feet deeper than the 2" test well which was not anticipated but good news for water quality and yield. Sieve analyses performed and screen selected. This is being ordered and driller anticipated returning to the site to install the screen and develop the well the week of 6/22. 5-day pumping test would be after the driller is complete with their work and timing/process for the 5-day pumping test will be coordinated with Frank and the WTP primary operator to determine best time and method to perform the test. Amendment No.1 emailed to Frank and the Commissioners previously.

Luke – Any additional water/sewer topics, discussion, etc.? None noted.

Motion to adjourn (Steve B) at 7:23pm & seconded Luke. Next meeting will be Tuesday June 23<sup>rd</sup>





# TOWN OF NORTON

Water & Sewer Department

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BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD: June 11, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Tara McManus

Luke Grant

Luke Grant, Chairman

Steve Bishop

Steve Bishop, Clerk

Scott Ollerhead, Member