

Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners  
166 John Scott Blvd., Norton, MA 02766

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

September 8, 2020

2020 SEP 23 A 10: 35

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm.

**Attendance:**

John Harrop  
Commissioner Luke Grant  
Commissioner Steve Bishop  
Weston & Sampson: Steve Pedersen and Tara McManus

**Superintendent Updates:**

**Fire Pump Flow Test**

A fire pump flow test was completed for 19 Leonard Street on August 23, 2020 with Platinum Fire Services Inc. The details of the testing are described. The test did not have any negative effects on the town's distribution system. The town will now be looking to schedule other flow tests that have been on hold. Other testing could possibly begin the second or third week of September.

**East Main Street / Mass DOT Project**

The original estimated cost was around \$700,000. This estimate was supplied by the town's engineer, VHB. The actual number now is \$809,130. The additional costs are largely related to how the state figures the cost for a particular item which differs from how the estimate was composed. VHB based the cost per item on a weight average and then multiplied that amount by the quantity. When the project went out to bid, the contractors used a similar method to determine cost per item and then determine what staffing equipment will be necessary to finish each task. Each employee and piece of equipment fall under the federal requirements for prevailing wage. The cost varies based on job title, age and size of each piece of equipment used, which adds to the cost per item.

**Elm Street Project**

Both the EPA and DEP have been doing some work at the old Reed & Barton building on the corner of Elm Street and Cross Street. They are expected to have another section of the building removed soon. At the request of the Building Commissioner, our department met with EPA on site and have remarked the water pipes that once supplied the facility. We were able to gain access to a few fire hydrants and post indicator valves in the center of the mill complex since the buildings that were unsafe and collapsing were removed. We were able to verify that the water mains supplying the hydrants and valves is off. After some site investigation and

looking at old plans, it was discovered that there are two water services on Elm Street that did feed the office and a building on the right of the office. This was torn down many years ago, but the services are still in place. They are turned off, but were never disconnected from the water main. We have called Dig-Safe and will disconnect them once we are cleared to do so. There will also be some older fire hydrants on Elm Street being replaced as part of our distribution, maintenance and improvements program. The location of the hydrants is discussed.

### **ACTION REQUEST:**

Commissioner Luke Grant makes two action requests with respect to the first action request is the need to confirm which hydrants are active. The second action request is to confirm whether or not the remaining sprinklers in the building are active or inactive.

### **Plain Street Residents: Tie-in December 2021**

Steve Pederson gets into a discussion with the residents to explain how and why the final answer was determined. He goes through the logistics of the project and payment system. Commissioner Grant regrettably tells the residents that the town was not able to find a way to assist them with the finances needed to tie-in. The town cannot make it into a betterment situation. He recommends that the residents find equity and utilize it, if possible.

### **Weston & Sampson:**

#### **Tara McManus**

### **Water Treatment Plant**

Well five was taken offline today, electrical service upgrade work was completed. National Grid did have a dedicated emergency line crew on site. Well five is now up and running again as of 3 pm today. Some interior electrical work remains, but no shut-downs will be needed to complete what needs to be done.

### **Pine St.**

The permanent trench patch work is in the scheduling phase. We are looking at possibly September or October. The contractor is going to get back to us with dates.

### **Replacement Wells 5 & 6**

With our notice of intent in place, we will be attending and presenting at our second meeting with the Conservation Commission on Monday. The plans have been updated since getting *feedback from their commission at the first meeting and we are hoping to get a determination to close out.* We have a DEP file number from the state for this project. The work will be done in two phases. Tara McManus goes on to describe the phases and what to expect during each one.

**Steve Pedersen:**

**Sewer**

There is about 1000 feet left to this pipe installation project. There is no more rock for now, but the contractors have now hit some water. They had to adjust their methods. The blaster has been sent away. Now, it will be hammering. Things are going smoothly and quickly right now. The workers are working four days a week, at ten hours a day. Steve Pedersen presents pay application #11 for blasting and pipe. It is \$615,000. He recommends that it be signed and payment should be made.

**Motions:**

Commissioner Steve Bishop makes a motion to approve payment application number 11 for the West Main Street project.

Commissioner Luke Grant seconds the motion.

All in favor:

Commissioner Grant-aye.

Commissioner Bishop-aye.

Commissioner Bishop makes a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Grant seconds the motion to adjourn.

All in favor:

Commissioner Bishop - aye.

Commissioner Grant - aye.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm**

**Next meeting September 22, 2020**



# TOWN OF NORTON

## Water & Sewer Department

P.O. Box 1168 Norton, Massachusetts 02766

Tel. (508) 285-0280 Fax (508) 285-0298


BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE MEETING HELD: Sept 8, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Nye Brown  
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Luke Grant, Chairman

  
Steve Bishop, Clerk