

Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners
166 John Scott Blvd., Norton, MA 02766
March 9, 2021

RECEIVED
NORTON TOWN CLERK
2021 MAR 25 AM 10:13

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm.

Attendance: Superintendent Frank Fournier, Commissioner Luke Grant, Commissioner Steve Bishop, Weston & Sampson's Steve Pedersen and Tara McManus

Superintendent Updates

Well 4 & 5

The superintendent brings up a discussion that was had with the well replacement specialist. They discussed types of replacement pumps, and possible cleanings that could be performed before the summer months begin. He notes that the existing motors in wells 4 and 5 come from a manufacturer in Texas. This means that there would be about a 15 to 20 week wait time to replace either one right now. The water department has chosen to place an order for a different brand pump that is compatible with the existing control system and will meet our operational needs. The current well 4 design will change from a single-stage pump to a two-stage pump. That will bring the increase the operational performance. The superintendent explains the plan for easing the burden on wells 5 and 6. He also notes that there was discussion about having a submersible pump and some piping on consignment for well 5. This is just a precautionary measure due to the vibration at that pump. The board discusses the vibration, possibilities of stopping the vibration and its true value to the system. Tara McManus notes that pump 5 will be irrelevant once wells 5A and 6A are online.

Flow Testing

The letter that was sent out about enforcing the rules regulations regarding flow testing for sprinkler systems has continues to generate more and more calls into our office to schedule the testing's that they need to do. The superintendent explains the many benefits that having workers on-site during these tests is providing to the town, property owners and department. The first full fire hydrant flow test is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 10am for 184 Mansfield Avenue. This flow test will provide fire flow numbers for the existing building in case upgrades are needed.

Vulnerability Assessment

The deadline for the town to complete a vulnerability assessment is June 2021. Fournier notes that the process is lengthy and it is being worked on with the help of Tara McManus and others.

PFAS

The Superintendent reminds the Board that the town is required to sample for PFAS. Based on our size our samples are due in April 2021. He notes that the requirements have changed from what they were in the past and explains what the sample level results must be under at our sources. He details what happens if the levels are high or at the proper level. He explains what

the impact would be in either result. Superintendent Fournier and Commissioner Steve Bishop discuss the procedures, possible issues and the importance of public notification. They discuss the possibility of using pamphlets to notify residents of the pertinent information.

Weston & Sampson Updates

Tara McManus - Water Updates

PFAS

Tara states that she attended a round table discussion with Mass DEP and Mass Water Works. She notes that any public education or notifications have to be reviewed by the DEP before being issued to the public. Tara explains the benefits of having three wells feeding one water treatment facility and how it can have a positive effect on the mcl test.

Water Treatment Plant

The recycle tank had a cure time that was over the estimated 7 days. The tank was filled March 8, 2021 in the afternoon. The contractor will inspect it for potential leakage on Wednesday, March 10, 2021. There was discussion of putting in an inflatable plug in one of the overflows to make sure there would be no leakage between the tanks. Tara notes that she will have more to update the board with at the next meeting.

Wells 5 & 6

The 48-inch casing for well 6 has been completed. The welder has moved onto welding the 36-inch casing and its installation is almost complete. They are anticipating a week to a week and a half of additional drilling needed. Once that is finished, the screen installation on well 5 is the next step. They will start the development of the well and then perform the 48-hour pumping test as well as the water quality testing. Once that is all completed, the screen for well 6 should already be completed which would allow the contractor to install it promptly. She continues to explain the next steps that include DEP approval, pumping test and water quality testing will take a couple more weeks for submission. The board members discuss the underground piping structures around the wells. Commissioner Luke Grant addresses the superintendent asking him to make sure the outer building maintenance and upkeep is in order and requests that any repairs needed be performed as soon as possible.

AWIA

Tara reminds the board that she and the superintendent did have a kick-off meeting last week about the American Water Infrastructure Act. They discussed some of the information used for the risk and resiliency assessment and the background of the AWIA requirements. They have already gotten some information and feedback from them from the meeting and things are moving in the right direction.

Steve Pedersen - Sewer Updates

West Main Street Sewer Project

He reminds the board that the only step left in this project is to perform the final paving in the spring. The contractors have noted that they are tentatively hoping to start the paving on the week of April 19, 2021. The goal is to get as much of the paving completed during school vacation. This is contingent on the anticipated reopening of the asphalt plant. There also needs to be an on-site meeting with Mass DOT to walk the corridor and get their confirmation on which areas will be paved lane-width and which will be full-width mill and overlay. He explains what the decisions are based upon. That meeting is hopefully going to happen before the end of March 2021 and then they will have the scope of the paving. The Housing Authority has now made their connection to the new facility.

West Main Street Sewer Betterment Assessments

Project Financing Update

Steve explains the four parts of the loan and how it will be paid off to the board members. He gives a brief summary on the betterments for this project and how they have tried to control them. He notes that they are preparing a final table for review by the commission. It will have the total number of EDUs (Equivalent Dwelling Units) on the project totals. Betterment units will be assessed and it is going to be between 100 and 105 units. He explains what EDUs are and how they are going to be used to assess these betterments. The board discusses betterments and how and where they will apply. Steve explains what the next steps are after the betterment prices are set.

Commissioner Luke Grant requests that the Health Department be cc'd on the EDUs. He explains why he wants the Board of Health updated.

The board discusses how the assessor's department gets involved in making sure betterments get paid.

Commissioner Grant requests that Steve Pedersen review the betterment numbers one last time before they push for it for a vote at the next meeting.

Steve Pedersen confirms that he will make sure that is done and ready for a vote by the next meeting.

Motions

Motion 1: Commissioner Steve Bishop makes the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Luke Grant seconds the motion.

All in Favor: Commissioner Bishop - Aye.

Commissioner Grant - Aye.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm

Next meeting: March 23, 2021 @ 6:00pm.



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: March 9, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Nye Brown
Victoria Nye Brown

[Signature]
Luke Grant, Chairman

[Signature]
Steve Bishop, Clerk
