

Norton Water/Sewer Commission's Meeting Minutes
for
Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 5:30 pm

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2021 MAY 26 AM 11:07

Meeting Attendees:

John Harrop – Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent
Steve Bishop – Commissioner (Chair)
James (Jim) Jardin – Commissioner
Janice Roberge – Administrative Secretary
Steve Pedersen – Weston & Sampson
Tara McManus – Weston & Sampson

Meeting call started 5:37pm. Steve called for Pledge of Allegiance then made mention of Water/Sewer Departments recent MassDEP award for excellent water service. Very appreciative of all the hard work the whole department has been undertaking. Then Steve requested Superintendent Updates

Superintendent Update (John) –

- Changed job description for sewer techs. Added wording for water (D2/T1)/wastewater licenses – need to get a D1 license within 18 months of hire, etc. up the ladder. Also added wording for on-call rotation. All union members are required to participate in on-call rotation within 30 Months of hire date. Disciplinary requirements were also added to reflect union contract requirements. Also, need to be comfortable working with wastewater. Jim – asked if operators are paid for each license advancements. Water licenses have stipends with them when you achieve the next level. Running internal first and then will be posted to the public.
- Hach flow meter ordered for Wheaton College sewer line; install scheduled for May 25th
- Business on So. Worcester St with an unmetered jockey pump for their fire system. The fire system wasn't keeping pressure and booster pump was tied off of water line not tank. Pump runs every minute or less. Provided them with a 1" meter and been reading it for about 1.5 weeks. Steve – how long has it been going on? Unknown how long it's been going on but Water Dept has wanted to install a meter for at least a month and a half. Likely a significant water bill (250,000-300,000 gallons per year) with new meter installed which will hopefully get them to make the needed improvements. ASR unaccounted for water – have been below 10% (DEP requirement) but every volume that can be accounted for is beneficial. Steve – is there a backflow preventor? John – he believes so. Steve – do we have a backflow surveyor on staff? John – No, hire out for 3rd party. Last foreman was our in-house backflow person.
- Submitted Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) with edits for approval. Should be uploaded to town website in the next few days. It is no longer mailed individually as DEP allows just an annual posting on the Water Department's website.
- Received good news from DEP regarding lead and copper sampling. Were required by DEP for 60 tier 1 samples twice per year and received approval for reduced monitoring for 30 tier 1 samples once per year. Means pH and lead and copper levels are in great shape. EPA has changes to the rule coming down the road in a few years but this helps a lot now as it's difficult to get all of the sampling completed. All samples need to come from customers; it's been greatly appreciated that the public has been so helpful as well with providing their samples. Looking through records but so far don't believe they have any full lead service lines in town.
- Received outstanding performance over the last year recognition from DEP.
- PFAS test results still haven't come back in. It's been about 3 weeks so should be coming in very shortly.
- 48-hour pump test started yesterday – *see Weston & Sampson update below*
- Steve asked about Cobb St generator for sewer station. Steve P – under contract to design electrical improvements and replacement of the 30+ year old generator. There is a time when the whole station

needs to come offline (ATS and panel upgrades) – conservative time was 1+ hours but really likely only 15-20 minutes. Pump the wetwell down and no concerns with this downtime. When generator switch out occurs, that will likely be 4-8 hours so Howard and Weston & Sampson electrical engineer discussed bringing in temp generator and wire the 3rd pump up to temp generator so station will run off of backup pump while switch-out occurs. All in agreement this is the best option. Design docs will be wrapped up end of next week and bidding shortly thereafter. Couple weeks for construction but likely some time for ordering materials.

Weston & Sampson Sewer Update (Steve P) –

- West Main St Sewer Project – Final paving was imminent. School vacation week they completed the milling. A little lag time before final paving which started the following Wednesday. At least 3 complaints came in. Signs on either end of the project. Raised structures were painted but Contractor may not have kept up with it as well as they could have but either way it's all on the Contractor and their insurance to deal with the claims. During final paving, significant delays on getting buses out at the end of the school day. Contractor was not allowed to have them start before school starts in the morning but were allowed to work through end of day. Completed the paving in 2 days as anticipated but there were a few rain delays and the paving plant went down so two Fridays back was a much longer day than they had planned. Held off on final top coat to allow buses out. Last Friday they wrapped up the striping. Road drives great but there were a couple manholes that may be a bit low. MassDOT plows the roadways and so they will be coming out to inspect to confirm whether they are satisfied – their call. Also, we are working on the betterment table – need to have finalized for July bills. Using the two most recent years (COVID overlap) so some restaurants have gone down and some may have gone up. A couple may be worthwhile to go through with the Commission. Example, old Dunkin' Donuts closed down so their average water usage is obviously really low. Steve B – roadway looks great and understand that there were some inconveniences for the public for a few days but overall the project is wrapped up and roadway looks great. Steve P – starting final pay estimate and SRF closeout paperwork with Rocchio and DEP.

Weston & Sampson Water Update (Tara) –

- WTP – Submitted final SRF request to MassDEP for processing and processing project closeout documentation. Motion by Jim for approval of Amendment No. 8 in the amount of \$10,000 for Weston & Sampson. Seconded by Steve, all in favor – 2 ayes, so approved. Steve – any issues with the tank? Tara – none that I've heard about. Believe the operators are rotating the tanks and working well.
- Well 5 & 6 Replacement – 48 hour pumping test started yesterday at 10am and will be completed tomorrow at 10am. Mid-next week plan is to start installation of screen at Well 6 then progress with installation similar to Well 5. 2nd crew will be onsite to clean Well 4 while they are also working on Well 6.
- AWIA – Progressing well. Had cybersecurity meeting with SCADA integrator and town IT. Steve – are we looking at any SCADA upgrades? John – Paul O from Harbor Controls is going to provide a proposal for a potential sewer computer setup/remote connections improvements.

253 Mansfield Ave Building Project – presentation to the board 6:35pm

Cam Campbell (sp?) presented as design engineer for 253 Mansfield Ave. Crossfit gym original property. Gym equipment, catering, old printing business. Site is completely paved 6" fire line coming in with a 2" copper line tapped off of it. 6" sewer service (tapped into 21" main in street) that runs parallel to side of building with 2 cleanouts. The goal is to knock the existing building down, save the foundation, cut and cap the sewer service at the main, cut and cap the 2" service at the 6" water line but save the 6" fire service. Build 3-stories of residential (40B) housing. Steve – fire service adequate? Cam – Not done a flow test yet but believe it will be adequate. Con Com approval received, planning likely this week. New 4" domestic tapped off the street. Fixture count 448 fixture units, 105 bedrooms, 60 units, anticipated sewer flow 11,550. Oil and water separators installed and designed to discharge to sewer per MA Plumbing code

requires to go to sewer. MA Plumbing Code does not allow this to be connected to stormwater. Jim – install a tight tank? Cam – 4,000 gallon tank would be required (60 gallons/car sizing) if no sewer connection. Cleaning out oil/water separator is in the O&M plan. Cam believes it is required to be cleaned out once a year. More to capture any leak/issue with a vehicle. All of the roof runoff goes to an underground system which overflows to the reservoir. Steve – how many oil/water separators? Cam – 1 installed at front of the building with 4" wye connection. Steve P – how is the oil/water sized? Cam – based on the size of the pipe going into the pipe per MA Plumbing Code. Detail on plans: 4" inlet, 3'-6" diameter with vents so going with a 4-ft diameter. Minimum sump depth of 2.5-ft for sediment. John – would need to see it's being pumped out on schedule and would likely want someone onsite from Water/Sewer Dept. to inspect the work. Penske Truck has a truck washing station and not sure if they have an oil/water separator. Steve/John – sewer out there? May go to Taunton or not sewered. Steve P – the sewer system is new and a closed system and agree there shouldn't be a lot of water in there at all and most of it will likely evaporate but if any practices like washing their cars under the parking area; people may just start dumping something when they see a drain they can discharge to. If there was a known incident, would the O&M plan require them to immediately get out there to clean it? Cam – believe it's MA Plumbing Code that they need to clean up the spill and clean out the oil/water separator. Closed walls all around with just an open entrance at the front. Steve P – just need to make sure the grading keeps the stormwater well away from entering the parking area. Steve B – provided a heads up that typically June through August they do not allow flow tests or when in a drought. Cam – Owner hasn't hired a MEP engineer so hasn't scheduled this yet but will let the Owner know of the flow test timing restrictions. Fire Dept requested a new hydrant at the property. Underneath the garage floor will be all the internal plumbing connections to the sewer service line. Discussion on fire truck access – not able to loop around back but do have a roadway along side of building.

Other Items/New Business:

John – A call came in today from 2 West Main Street (Church) – what was the Church rated as for betterment? Steve P – 1 unit. Minimum of 1 unit required and based on historical water usage, decided it is going to be 1 unit (16,000/unit).

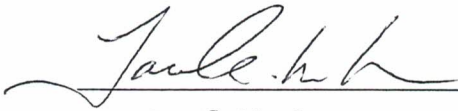
Next meeting dates set for May 25th at 5:30pm...but Steve may need to require 1 day later. John mentioned Frank may also not be in attendance again as he's attempting to take vacation before end of fiscal year.

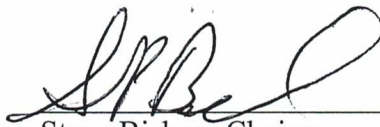
Motion to adjourn by Jim & seconded by Steve, all in favor – 2 ayes. Meeting adjourned.

BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE

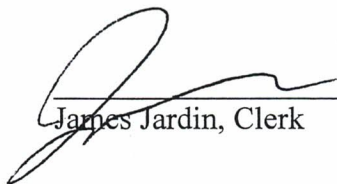
BOARD MEETING HELD: 5/11/21

Respectfully submitted,


TARA E. McMANUS, WESTON & SAMUELSON


Steve Bishop, Chairman

5/25/21
Date Approved


James Jardin, Clerk

5-25-21
Date Approved