

Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners  
166 John Scott Blvd., Norton, MA 02766  
July 13, 2021

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NORTON TOWN CLERK  
2021 AUG 20 AM 11:23

**Meeting called to order at 5:30pm**

**Attendance:** Superintendent Frank Fournier, Assistant Superintendent John Harrop; Commissioner Chairman Steve Bishop, Commissioner Member James Jardin, Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus & Steve Pedersen, Administrative Secretary Janice Roberge, Town Resident Peter Wiggins, Select Board Vice Chair Michael Toole

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Superintendent Updates:**

- There was a pipe break on East Hodges St, the leak was isolated quickly. We lost close to 200,000 gallons of water. A 9ft section of pipe was replaced and water was back on Sunday morning. John's post on FB was very helpful to the residence and staff. The board discussed different options and hurdles related to replacing the older pipes in town.

**Mass DOT East Main St. improvement project:**

- K.R.Rezendes is back on site working the Mass DOT project, they will be requiring our department to shut down sections of the 16" water main to relocate the connections of everything to that 16" water main. They will do this in sections to limit how many properties are shut down at one time. We anticipate this to start the end of August 2021; however, depending on many factors it may get pushed to the end of the year.

**Sprinkler testing:**

- As we have discussed at past meetings regarding the enforcement of our rules & regulations to sprinkler testing, it's important to remember that we have to schedule and coordinate all testing that happens in town. This allows us to be in compliance with the DEP for any water that is

unaccounted for. There have been many businesses in the area that have done these tests without the authorized use from the water department and it has been an issue for many, many years. Our unaccounted-for water total often reflects that, which is the difference between the amount of water we pump and the amount we bill for. Another round of letters will be sent out shortly to the same property owners reminding them of the rules and regulations. Having these tests scheduled and coordinated does assist with preventing unnecessary water quality issues around town.

- For the next two weeks Wheaton college is performing sprinkler testing on about 50 buildings on and around campus. This may cause isolated areas to see some discoloration in and around each location. We will be measuring and monitoring flow and quality of water during these tests. This is impactful to the towns water system so we will flush as needed.
- Facebook Page profile is getting good feedback. It has been helpful to get accurate information to the residents. There was discussion about the quality of water in town and that it is the clearest it has been, even the state has recognized this through the results of our sample tests.

#### **Weston & Sampson updates:**

##### **Tara McManus-Well 5 & 6 Replacement Projects**

- Redevelopment process of Well 6A. There is a 54" casing pipe left in the ground, there were issues getting it out so it was decided to leave it in, DEP has been notified and approved. Sullivan is not going to raise the price so it will not affect our cost. The next step is to do the 48-hour pump test, this will depend on a few different factors, one being the weather.
- Discussed setting up an emergency above ground well for 5, Sullivan can do a temporary rental pump, above ground system for about a month or two to get us through the summer (This would be for a drought situation). This would be about \$85,000 for construction.
- Well replacement project is going smoothly. State funding is being researched to cover replacing the wells.
- Well 1 - Commission Steve Bishop introduced Michael Toole from the Select Board. There was a discussion about the setup of a possible satellite well to remediate some the issues there and possibly replacing the main well.
- Michael Toole inquired about getting back the BlueDrop Water Machine at Town Hall. They discussed that when the machine was put in it was for



those residents that were getting poor quality water. Now, with the water treatment plant, the need for the machine is not in demand. It was also mentioned that the Board of Commissioners are looking into the possibility of a rebate program for in home filter, for the residents. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

**West Main Sewer Project updates:**

- Line striping completed - close out letter is being sent to Mass DOT.
- SRF application reimbursement close out is in process
- There is one change order still outstanding (#6) – 10 Items remaining between the town and the contractor. There is about \$200,000 remaining for uncharged utilities waiting to be completed, after some back and forth between Weston & Sampson and the Contractor, it was recommended by Weston & Sampson that the amount should be \$116,500 to complete these final claims. Weston & Sampson also recommends that the board vote on giving Frank the approval to sign this change order #6. The DEP will then finalize the approval of this change. There is still one change order that does not involve any payments, it is just to clean up the remaining balances.
- Betterments were recorded and Rose is working with the tax collector to continue the process
- Cobb Street-Ready to go for bidding. We are replacing the generator and updating the electrical to be in code.
- Advertising was on July 8<sup>th</sup> and the bidding process will start. Bid opening will be August 12<sup>th</sup> at the Water/Sewer office. There will be a pre-bid conference on July 29<sup>th</sup> at the pump station so the contractors can take a look at the station.
- Our annual contract agreements with Weston & Sampson for general services, have been completed and currently at the town hall for approval signatures.

**Other topics:**

**Crane truck motor**-It was sent to Rodman Ford, they stated it would need a complete motor replacement for about \$10,000 but to replace the whole truck it would be about \$70,000-\$80,000. We are looking at a used or remanufactured motor to replace it. This is not something we can go without for too long; it is used frequently.

**Bills & Correspondences:**

All bills were reviewed, approved and signed

**Motions****Motion 1: Superintendent Frank Fournier to sign change order #6 for \$116,500 in regards to the West Main Street Project**

Commissioner James Jardin makes motion for signature

Commissioner Steve Bishop seconded the motion

All in Favor: Commissioner Bishop – Aye

Commissioner Jardin – Aye

Motion passes unanimously.

**Motion 4: Meeting Adjournment**

Commissioner James Jardin makes motion to adjourn

Commissioner Steve Bishop seconded the motion

All in Favor: Commissioner Bishop – Aye

Commissioner Jardin – Aye

Motion passes unanimously.

**Next Meeting: July 27, 2021 @ 5:30pm**

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:30pm**

BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED MINUTES FOR THE


BOARD MEETING HELD: July 13, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

  
Janice Roberge, Administrative Secretary

  
Steve Bishop, Chairman

8/16/21  
Date Approved

  
James Jardin, Clerk

8-16-21  
Date Approved