

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

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Meeting called to order at 5:38pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance: Superintendent Frank Fournier III; Commissioner Chairman Steve Bishop, Commissioner Member James Jardin, Administrative Secretary Janice Roberge, Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus

Superintendent Updates

Discussion about PFAS sampling:

Superintendent Fournier began a discussion with the Board about Norton's PFAS sample results. Which were in fact very good compared to other surrounding communities.

Our system based on size was required to test for PFAS in April of 2021 our results from the first round of testing are as follows-

- Well 1 – came back ND (non-detect), so no repeat samples needed
- Water Treatment Plant – Blended samples – Wells 4, 5 & 6 came back as 2.3 PPT (parts per trillion), extremely low
- Well 3 – tested at 16.4 PPT, this well is close to Easton which has found higher detect levels in most of their sources there, so we are not surprised to see elevated levels here.
- A second round of samples will be required by Mass DEP base on the sample results, anywhere there is a detect will see a second round.
- The sample bottles are on order, there have been some delays in bottle shipments that Mass DEP is aware of. Second round samples should be taken within 14 days of the previous round, we will be very close to that.
- We don't know if the samples would be affected by the drought or heavy rain, too early to tell, we will learn as we go. We are at the end of the aquifer – if more users come online our numbers may decrease because more water is being taking from the well.
- Again, this is very good news for Norton.

Water Conservation:

Thank you to all of the town residents who are conservative with the water use. We appreciate that we have not had to hand out any sprinkler violations so far this year, we did educate a few people that had sprinklers out, everyone was very understanding of the situation and the rules and regulations pertaining to watering. A few phone calls came into the office questioning if certain addresses have town water because they have sprinkler systems running those were investigated and those locations did have private wells for irrigation, we did notify them that they need to register the well with the BOH and put a sign out.

Grants:

Congressman Jake Auchincloss was in town. Fournier thanks Tara for helping out and participating in a quick informational session we had with the Congressman and his associates. His community funding program has money available to make infrastructure improvements, the congressman is a big supporter of water and electricity. It was a last-minute meeting but we were able to get information to him that

prompted him to visit Norton. They visited the new Well sites 5A & 6A and then we took them to the Water Treatment Facility to show what is involved with the filtration and treatment process, we were joined by other members of the congressman's party and other Norton officials.

We were able to give them a very quick and brief explanation of the current water sources and our need for new wells. Our primary treatment operator Derek was on site and did a great job informing them and answering many questions.

Steve Bishop asked a little more about the grant specifics, a conversation began about multiple different options and other funding sources available if we meet the requirements. Certain amounts of funding have been allocated to Norton and Bristol County. Tara explains – a lot of different funding opportunities like the American Recovery program. The Congressman reached out to Norton-looking for specific projects. A lot of help is being offered to the communities, focusing on getting money back to the communities for lead service line replacements and other water and wastewater projects.

We put our application together with little notice, and we passed the first round, which again is good news.

Our proposal was 3 projects, we focused on the well replacement project and the next phase, we are currently working on wells 5 & 6 but well 4 was next in line and the only reason we didn't do it under the current project is because of funding, which is a key part that all 3 need to be done.

Steve Bishop asked if there is any opportunity to help with the sampling cost? Tara stated, not with this specific project, it is designed to replace the wells, however with well 4 will be the whole spectrum so there may be funding for sampling with that. The whole goal of the Federal Government is to get money out there, it's close to 2 million for Norton to obtain. We will continue to talk with the Town Manager to work through where the money can best be used. There are other programs out there for infrastructures so it's just figuring out what's available and how to distribute the monies.

Norton & Bristol County were both allocated monies so you need to put the argument through for what projects you want the money to go towards. Norton was allocated 2 million and Bristol County was allocated 3 million. There are many projects to do so there will be much discussion about it.

Tara McManus' updates: Projects for water-Pfas was excellent news. Water Treatment Plant-combined test results were good. Processed certification paperwork for WTP, just received certification from DEP that the project is closed out so on their end they signed off on it, town should have the electronic funds to pay for it. This closes out the project.

Now that COVID restrictions are being lifted we need to plan a "party", a dedication of the Water Treatment Plant on Plain St.

Well Replacement:

- Well 5A Sampling is done-PFAS was ND(Non-Detect) Putting paper work together for pumping test process to submit to Mass DEP.

- Well 6A-they installed the screen, well development starting either today or tomorrow should be done in a couple weeks.

We need to coordinate with the WT staff for the pumping tests for 6A we will plan around the 7-day forecast to do the 48-hour test. Everything is set up for that, had great success with Well 5 and making sure there was clean water coming out with the new screening and gravel pack. It takes about 3 weeks to get the water quality test back, if everything goes well should be end of June to schedule the pumping test, or right after the holiday. If there was an emergency we could go to DEP and ask to put well 5A on line with a temporary connection and pump. What are we pumping now, over the 4-day heat wave we were between 21-23 hours, this is where we don't want to be for run times, as always, we will keep an eye on the weather and our run times.

Weston and Sampson service contracts:

Tara explained since it is coming to the end of the current FY, we have put together our contract for the Boards approval for the next FY budget. The contract is for up to \$50,000 per department, which is the same as it was in the last FY. The Board will review. Tara mention this is the same budget plan that we have proposed and used for the past 10 years.

Waste Water:

- Discussion on the bidding schedule for the Cobb Street Sewer Pumping Station improvements.

West Main Sewer Betterments:

Total # of assessments has changed by one EDU so an additional \$16,000 has been added to the total to make it \$1,616,000. The reason is one of the properties was originally assessed as a single family and is actually a multi- family residence.

Rocchio – West Main Sewer Project – completed punch list items from last meeting. Estimate will have final pay for next meeting

Other topics: Water Machine

Michael Toole would like to attend a meeting to discuss the water machine options. Steve will give him the dates for upcoming meetings.

Bills & Correspondences:

All bills were reviewed, approved and signed

Next Meeting: Tuesday 7/13/21 at 5:30pm & 7/27 at 5:30pm

Motions

Motion 1: Sewer Betterments for West Main St.

Commissioner James Jardin makes a motion to approve the \$16,000 increase in the total betterments totaling \$1.616 million

Commissioner Steve Bishop seconded the motion

All in Favor: Commissioner Bishop – Aye

Commissioner Jardin – Aye

Motion passes unanimously.

Motion 2: Weston & Sampson Water Contract with the Town of Norton Water/Sewer Dept for \$50,000

Commissioner James Jardin makes motion to approve the \$50,000 Water Contract

Commissioner Steve Bishop seconded the motion

All in Favor: Commissioner Bishop – Aye

Commissioner Jardin – Aye

Motion passes unanimously.

Motion 3: Weston & Sampson Sewer Contract with the Town of Norton Water/Sewer Dept for \$50,000

Commissioner James Jardin makes motion to approve the \$50,000 Sewer Contract

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.

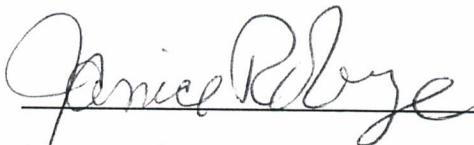
Next Meeting: July 13, 2021 @ 5:30pm

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30pm

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

BOARD MEETING HELD: Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Respectfully submitted,



Janice Roberge, Administrative Secretary



Steve Bishop, Chairman

6/23/21

Date Approved



James Jardin, Clerk

6-23-21

Date Approved