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**Town of Norton  
Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners  
166 John Scott Blvd.  
Norton, MA 02766  
(508) 285-0280**

**Meeting Minutes  
May 10, 2022**

**I. Call to Order by Chair**

The May 10, 2022 meeting of the Norton Water/Sewer Commissioners was held at 166 John Scott Blvd and remotely (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6391519600> - Meeting ID: 639 151 9600; Phone: 646-558-8656 – Meeting ID: 639 151 9600) and was called to order at 5:32 pm, by Commissioner Steven Bishop, Chair. Member(s) present: Commissioner James Jardin and Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Also in attendance: Superintendent Frank Fournier, Assistant Superintendent John Harrop, Office Administrator Brooke Durden, Weston & Sampson's Steve Pedersen, and Weston & Sampson's Tara McManus.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner James Jardin wanted to begin the meeting with congratulating Commissioner Steve Bishop and Commissioner Steven Bernstein on their victories at the Town Election.

**II. Minutes**

1. Minutes from the April 26, 2022 meeting were approved.

**Motion was made by Commissioner James Jardin to approve the minutes of the April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Norton Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners. Seconded by Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Vote: Commissioner Jardin – Aye; Commissioner Bernstein – Aye. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.**

**It is to be noted that Commissioner Steve Bishop abstained from the vote as he was not present at the April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**III. Superintendent Updates**

1. Water Main Flushing: We are a little more than half way done with the nighttime flushing. Superintendent Frank Fournier mentioned that they focused on the main trunk lines and had some techs go out during the day last week to complete some

side road flushing. Commissioner Steve Bishop asked Superintendent Fournier how many more weeks of nighttime flushing, as to which Superintendent Fournier responded that he believes there are only 2/3 weeks left. There have been no complaints from residents regarding discoloration in their water pertaining to the flushing. However, some residents have called to question fluctuation in their system pressure. Due to not being able to move the water in the past two years at a rate that we are doing now, it is common to see this. After explaining the flushing process to the residents, they are very understanding. Unfortunately, the Fire Department has been very active in the past couple of weeks dealing with brush and house fires. Therefore, areas that crews haven't flushed yet are seeing some abnormality in their system due to the Fire Department using the hydrants.

2. Flow Tests: Assistant Superintendent John Harrop has set up three Flow Tests in the next coming weeks. There will be one test done at Wheaton College on May 18<sup>th</sup> and two done on May 25<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center and Town Hall. Superintendent Frank Fournier mentioned that there was actually a Sprinkler Flow Test done at Wheaton College about an hour ago due to one of the dorms having a broken sprinkler that caused flooding out on one floor down to the other.
3. Leaks: As stated at previous meetings, the crews were out during the Winter months looking for system leaks. Within the past couple of weeks, a leak was actually found in the Clear Well at the Water Treatment Facility. This leak went back into the system, rather than on the ground; therefore, making it harder to find. A diving company was hired to go in and look around and we are currently working on options to repair it with the least amount of downtime possible. Another leak was called in by a neighbor on Juniper Road stating they noticed water coming from the foundation of a vacant house. Assistant Superintendent John Harrop responded and took all necessary precautions by shutting the water off and contacted the Fire Department, as well as Board of Health. Superintendent Fournier reminded the Commissioners of a leak that was fixed back a couple of months ago on Mansfield Ave. He stated that crews actually went back to that site last week to replace a section of AC pipe that they noticed was previously left by a contractor with no gate valve to the nearby hydrant.
4. Assistant Superintendent Updates: Assistant Superintendent John Harrop mentioned that the Finance Committee approved the Water and Sewer Budgets at their meeting last night. He also mentioned that hopefully within the next couple of weeks they will be receiving the pickup truck that was ordered back in July.

#### **IV. Bill Abatement Request for 79 Coddling Road**

1. The resident at 79 Coddling Road sent in a letter stating she was very surprised with her most recent bill as she is a new resident in town. Our crew did go out to the property and performed a leak detection resulting in no leak being found. However, after some discussion with the resident, it was stated that there was a leak at her outside faucet at one time. She had just moved in last June and didn't realize a leak from that would cause such a large bill amount. Superintendent Frank Fournier mentioned that the Commissioners have abated the Sewer amount in the past for a circumstance like this since this leak wouldn't have gone through

the meter as Sewer. Unfortunately, they wouldn't be able to abate the water portion because that amount did in fact run through the meter. Commissioner Steve Bishop agreed with Superintendent Fournier and made comment that this is consistent of what has been done in the past.

**Motion was made by Commissioner James Jardin to abate the Sewer bill for 79 Coddling Road in the amount of \$899.81. Seconded by Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Vote: Commissioner Jardin – Aye; Commissioner Bernstein – Aye; Commissioner Bishop – Aye. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.**

**V. Weston & Sampson – Water/Sewer Project Updates – Steve Pedersen & Tara McManus**

**Sewer – Steve Pedersen**

1. Cobb Street: The generator is expected to ship in November and we are looking to wrap the project up in January. Due to the delay in receiving the generator, an extension for the Phase 1 contract will be needed as it expired in April. Contract for Phase 2, Wet Well Repair, was approved at a previous meeting.
2. Holly Road & Knollwood: Today, 30% drawings of the generators were sent over. The Holly Road Station, which is actually located on Reservoir Street, is looking to add the generator behind the electrical cabinet that is at that location. Commissioner Bernstein asked if there is a flood plan due to it being near the Reservoir. Weston & Sampson's Steve Pedersen responded and stated that he doesn't think there would be an issue but wetlands permitting needs to be resolved. Mr. Pedersen also stated that he has been in contact with Howard, Sewer Technician, regarding the Knollwood Station. It was stated that Knollwood has a backup gas engine driven pump that has always worked; therefore, the generator will be considered a backup to the backup. Drawdown tests were completed at Knollwood and there were no big concerns.
3. Turtle Crossing: The Peer Review has been completed and a draft was sent over to Superintendent Frank Fournier for review. Weston & Sampson's Steve Pedersen mentioned that the proposed Sewer is really shallow, which is a concern. Once Superintendent Fournier and Mr. Pedersen go through the Peer Review together, they will then send it off to the Commissioners.
4. Town Municipal Complex: We have been working with the Town Planner, Paul DiGiuseppe, on submitting a grant application for the Sewer extension on Elm Street.
5. Met with the Schools regarding the I&I at the Yelle School. Weston & Sampson will be sending over a proposal this week to complete a study when the kids are out of school.

**Water – Tara McManus**

6. The contractor for Pine Street, KJS, will hopefully be out within the next month to get everything wrapped up.
7. White Street: Looking at June 14<sup>th</sup> to possibly do the Bid Opening.

8. A preliminary design for Well 4 is being wrapped up and is in the works of meeting with the Conservation Commission for review.
9. There are some options regarding the leak in the Clear Well that will be discussed later on with Superintendent Fournier. At this point in time, Weston & Sampson is in agreement that there is no reason to take it offline in the summertime. They will work on a temporary fix for now and then work on a permanent solution to fix it in the wintertime.

#### **VI. Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance**

1. Commissioner Steve Bishop mentioned that he has a conflict with the next Commissioners meeting that is scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bishop asked the other Commissioners to move the next meeting to May 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, which was agreed upon by all.
2. Commissioner Steve Bishop also asked for any updates regarding Island Brook. Assistant Superintendent John Harrop responded and stated that Island Brook presented to the Conservation Commission the prior night and would not be surprised if they heard from the developers soon.
3. Superintendent Frank Fournier mentioned that the party who purchased 93 Mansfield Ave and 0 Reservoir Street reached out regarding running Sewer down Reservoir Street and building a large development on those parcels of land. Superintendent Fournier sent over a couple of options for Sewer and will update the Commissioners if he hears back from them.

#### **VII. Bills & Correspondence**

1. All bills were reviewed, approved and signed.

#### **VIII. Next Meeting: May 25<sup>th</sup>**

#### **IX. Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Commissioner James Jardin to adjourn the meeting at 6:42pm. Seconded by Commissioner Steven Bernstein. Vote: Commissioner Jardin – Aye; Commissioner Bernstein – Aye; Commissioner Bishop – Aye. MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

BOARD MEETING HELD: May 10, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Brooke Durden  
Brooke Durden, Office Administrator

Steve Bishop  
Steve Bishop, Chairman

5/25/22  
Date Approved

James Jardin  
James Jardin, Clerk

5-31-22  
Date Approved

Steven Bernstein  
Steven Bernstein, Commissioner

5/25/22  
Date Approved