



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Norwell Water Dept.
345 Main Street, Norwell

Present: Fred St. Ours, Peter Dillon, Steve Ivas and Water Superintendent Jason Federico

Prepared by: Donna Snow

Meeting Minutes:

FSO motioned to approve the meeting minutes from 2/1/24; PD seconded and all in favor at 4:38pm.

Abatement 9 Fieldstone Way:

The Board reviewed the estimated usage from this location. Three estimates were provided prior to the equipment being replaced. The resident feels the October bill is too high. PD suggested using an average from the last three bills and reducing usage down to 56k gallons. FSO agreed and motioned to lower the October bill down to 56k; PD seconded and all in favor at 4:59pm. PD recommended the residents complete the abatements forms moving forward.

Abatement 28 Highfield Lane:

Doug Franoeur spoke with this resident and noted the final reading in July did not properly record on this account. In October the new owner paid for 50k gallons of water therefore the January bill needs to reflect this. To adjust the billing accordingly DF would like to reduce the 84k gallons used by 50k and charge the resident for 34k gallons. FSO motioned to abate the bill down to 34k - SI seconded; all in favor at 5:03pm

Meter Change out for 93 Gerard Road:

The resident spoke to Liz Corwin previously and noted that she does not feel comfortable allowing staff inside to change her meter out. JF offered to reach out to resident as this is one of the oldest meters in Town and does need an upgrade.

South Street Treatment Plant Update:

JF noted the media is coming on 4/15/24 and then a full-scale testing of the filters will commence. SI suggested putting an update on the Town's website so residents are aware of the progress. Group decided to hold off on further updates until we are closer to completion timeline.

Unanticipated Items:

- JF noted the bedrock pump test on the Bowker Street well will begin on Monday.
- JF noted four cameras were installed at the South Street Treatment Plant per homeland security requirements.
- JF made a request for Steve Gatanti (Dept. Foreman) to be able to take his town vehicle home since he is on call every day for the next many weeks. Steve Gatanti also requested to have a remote starter installed in the work truck. The Board approved both requests and JF noted the cost is about \$300 and that the installation will be done by Water Department staff.
- JF explained that by State statute the newer staff is allowed to be on call but not permitted to be on standby per their union contract. SG is receiving the on-call stipend, but the overtime earned is dependent on which employee assumes the weekend duties.
- JF advised that the Annual Statistical Report is in draft form now. JF noted his calculations show usage @ 51 gallons per day on residential accounts, PD noted this is low. JF notes unaccounted for water at 3.9%; FSO feels this is low as well. JF has only rough numbers for flushing at this time. JF promised to have final numbers for the next meeting where he will review his proposal for a 10% water increase across all tiers.
- JF noted we may have 2 inserts for April; one for the rate change and one that the Planning Office is requesting.

FSO made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 PM, seconded by SI.

Accepted:  Date: 3/21/24