



WATER DIVISION

86 Bridge Street, P.O. Box 20, Baldwinville, MA 01436-0020

TEL: 978-939-5323

FAX: 978-939-4309

John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

**Water Commissioners' Meeting
January 4, 2017**

Members present were: Gregg Edwards, Chris Stewart

Employees present were: John Driscoll, Ron Davan

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Dana.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 2-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The Manager and the Superintendent updated the Board on developments surrounding the demolition and re-construction of the water storage tank on Johnson Avenue. The item holding up DN Tanks' adherence to their initial 2016 schedule was the sampling vault. The Superintendent stated that this was a very large manhole that water personnel could occupy safely and take water samples just outside of the water storage tank for continued compliance with state and federal drinking water guidelines. The promised delivery date for the top and bottom of this vault kept moving further into the future, to the point where DN Tanks was now nervous about a late project completion date, which meant fees incurred by them.

The Board re-visited the Manager's proposal on updating the Water Plant's water connection fees which were now over eight years old. He made to them some clarifications on just how he had arrived at the figures that he did, and this time around the Board as a whole was more comfortable moving forward with the new water connection fees to be effective for this second half of FY17. At this time a vote took place as follows:

"On a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Board voted to accept the Manager's proposed Water Connection Fees for FY17 as presented, to be effective as of January 5, 2017."

Dana – Aye

Gregg – Aye

Chris – Aye

The Manager expressed frustration at both New Horizon Communications (NHC) and Verizon Communications (VZC) over the problems with the Water Plant's SCADA phone line, 978-939-8463. Like in the past when we had switched from Verizon to Earthlink, this particular phone line was again put on a per-call/per-minute plan w/ long distance features. The Manager said that this line never connects outside of Templeton and should never be on a per-anything plan. He had been in touch with his contact at NHC and was assured that it would be taken care of ASAP. He will follow up at the February meeting...

New Business:

The Manager gave the Board copies of the Water Department Report and Financial Statements from FY16 for the Town's publication of its FY16 Annual Report for their reference.

A mid-FY17 water sales summary was provided to the Board by the Manager for their review. A total of \$782,451 in water revenues had already been realized by the Water Plant in addition to a total of \$36,171 in miscellaneous operating revenues for a total of \$818,622 in combined water revenues. The Manager stated that there had been no issues with the Water Plant paying ALL of its expense on time in FY17 thus far and he did not anticipate any coming. This was due in part to the water rate increase of November 2015 AND the continued reimbursements from the USDA for engineering and legal expenses that were effectively sunk in FY16.

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor the Water Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll



General Manager