



WATER DIVISION

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John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

**Water Commissioners' Meeting
May 17, 2017**

Members present were: Dana Blais, Gregg Edwards

Employees present were: John Driscoll, Ron Davan, Jennifer Belliveau

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Dana.

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

The minutes of April 12, 2017 were approved on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Dana, 2-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The Manager informed the Board that we are in the final stages of the Water Storage Tank construction on Johnson Avenue. The light gray painting will be done this week, followed by looming, seeding and fencing. It was still too muddy up there but DN Tanks will hopefully have this done next week. The UPS system is fixed along with the associated electrical issues. There will be some USDA Grant monies left for this project upon its completion, and Dana suggested looking into using it for a new water main up Johnson Avenue to the WST. The Manager and Superintendent will check and see if it would be possible to use these grant funds for the upgrade.

The Manager provided a handout to the Commissioners for the FY17 Water Sales Summary and Revenue thru April 30. The Water Plant is mailing out more bills than last year, due to a few empty homes being sold and/or occupied. The gallons have increased by 3.6% but the revenue has increased by 6%; the Manager explained that these amounts do not equal because of the water rate increase's being implemented in the middle of Q2 of FY16 rather than at the beginning. The irrigation rate (Rate 28) was not changed since the last increase in November 2015; it should have also been increased to \$9.62 per gallon, which is the highest-tiered water usage rate (we have recently corrected this error). The Manager stated that we are in good shape this fiscal year. Dana commented that this should help with our funding of replacement water meters.

The Manager updated the Board on our water customer at 40 Baptist Common Road. This customer has turned back on his water himself several times. The Water Plant filled in the curb box with grindings so he would not be able to do this again. The fine is normally \$300 for each instance of tampering with water plant equipment. If this bill is paid this water customer will have to come in with approximately \$550 (fine plus bill).

The Manager informed the Board that the New Truck #31 arrived on May 12, 2017. It will need to be painted with the blue stripe which should be in about 3 weeks, and a new radio will need to be installed. Dana suggested getting rear strobe lights in the back. The Water Superintendent did ask Liberty Chevrolet about these lights when ordering the truck, but they stated that they do not warrantee them due to moisture getting inside. They also do not provide floor mats because of the vinyl floor, so we will have to go out and purchase them ourselves.

New Business:

The Manager informed the Board the Mass DEP came out to do the 2017 System Sanitary Survey. The individual from the Mass DEP went out to the well sites with the Superintendent last week. Their only concern was the size of the screen holes that we had on a screen covering one of the pipes at the new WST on Johnson Avenue. We have since changed it.

The Manager discussed some of the Maple Street Well Site maintenance. An electrical enclosure box was rusted out containing the circuit breaker and there is obvious moisture damage. The pump motor keeps tripping out on imbalance for reasons unknown, and the Light Superintendent thought it best to replace the whole enclosure first for \$2,800 to eliminate it as a reason. A new motor balancer/controller/monitor for the pump motor would be an additional \$1,800. The enclosure is a NEMA 3R unit and is weathertight and has been ordered.

The Manager mentioned that we had a lot of maintenance work performed by Maher Services at the Willow Street Well Site back in February. Maher stated they had e-mailed our invoices to us in February, but we did not receive them. They sent them to us again and we received them. We suggested that they do not send invoices to us "paperless" any longer and to mail them instead. The Commissioners will see the invoices in the next couple of weeks on the warrants for approval. The total cost of the Willow Street Well Site maintenance work was \$18,076.

Other:

The Superintendent informed the Board that he went to the recent Annual Town Meeting in May. There were three articles on the town floor regarding fluoride in the town water. The Moderator let one resident speak for quite some time against fluoridation of town water and did not attempt to place any limitations on the amount of time allowed to speak. A second resident subsequently suggested that the first resident to install a private well to solve the problem.

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Dana, 2-0 favor the Water Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John M. Driscoll
General Manager