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John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

## WATER DIVISION

### Water Commissioners' Meeting

**September 29, 2021**

Members present were: Chairman Dana Blais  
Clerk/Secretary Chris Stewart  
Member Gregg Edwards

Employees present were: General Manager [GM] John Driscoll  
Water Superintendent [WS] Ron Davan  
Business Manager [BM] Jennifer Belliveau

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

The agenda was approved on a motion by Chris seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor.

#### **Old Business:**

The Water Plant would have to go before the Capital Planning Committee (CIC) in order to move forward with our borrowing of the proposed \$2,200,000 needed to fund three projects in FY2023 and FY2024. The GM and the WS would attend this meeting and present to the committee the plans for the Main St Bridge, the Maple St Water Main and the Maple St Culvert. This was necessary in order to allow the Water Plant to combine their borrowing with that of the Town's to be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting in May 2022. The GM and the WS will be meeting with town officials with Tighe & Bond at some point before the CIC meeting so that we can coordinate our efforts properly. Once the Select Board gives their approval to use Tighe & Bond for the Town's portion of the bridge engineering and design, they will be able to begin work on our design of the new proposed Main St Water Main to be re-located under the riverbed.

The FY2021 Water Audit status was such that the GM and the BM had received draft financial statements and were in the process of reviewing them so that Melanson could finalize our audit. The GM thought that this could be done within a month's time.

#### **New Business:**

The GM presented a report to the Board on the Q1 water sales for this fiscal year versus last fiscal year. Overall gallons sold were down by 10% from last year but overall revenues were still up by 3% due to

the water rate increase effective July 1, 2021. The WS said that the decrease in residential and irrigation gallons is not a surprise considering the amount of rain in the region in June, July and August.

The GM stated that our new water meters were purchased for the FY2022 budget cycle; the Water Plant purchased 300 new water meters at a cost of \$76,242. Now that the COVID-19 situation had been contained somewhat we were now able to resume our scheduled water meter change-outs inside the homes.

There was a discussion on the addition of a crane to our new Truck #33, a 1-ton water utility truck. The GM said that the new truck was already \$55,000 and this crane would add \$18,000 to that making the new Truck #33 cost \$73,000. The quote had come from JC Madigan and would likely be the only one we'd be able to get. The GM asked for another board vote to make this add-on of the crane a possibility. At this time a vote took place as follows:

*On a motion by Dana, seconded by Gregg, 3-0 in favor, the Board voted to add the crane to the new Water Truck #33 for the \$18,000 quoted by JC Madigan.*

*Dana - Aye*

*Gregg - Aye*

*Chris - Aye*

There was some discussion with the WS on some new housing to be installed at the end of Stephens Way in East Templeton. He stated that these units would not have basements of any kind so meter pits would be necessary for all of the water meters to be installed here when it was done.

**Other Business:**

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Chris, 3-0 in favor, the Water Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll



General Manager