



WATER DIVISION

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John M. Driscoll, *General Manager*

**Water Commissioners' Meeting  
June 26, 2018**

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

Employees present were: General Manager John Driscoll  
Water Superintendent Ron Davan  
Business Manager Jennifer Belliveau

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

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

The minutes of May 8, 2018 were approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Dana, 3-0 in favor.

**Old Business:**

The GM distributed to the Board copies of the 2017 Annual Statistical Report (ASR). Once again the Mass DEP had not accepted our reporting results as we presented them and had not allowed any water leaks from services to be counted against our Un-Accounted For Water (UAFW). The effect was an increase in our UAFW figure from 6.2% to 8.7%. The GM and WS both expressed their frustration at the Mass DEP again like they had last year. Neither of them understood why a known water leak in a 1" service line for several months was of no consequence to the Mass DEP, yet a known water break in an 8" water main for several minutes was. They know of no other way to tighten up the Water Plant's figures on this report; the process for reporting water loss throughout the year had already been optimized to its natural end.

The GM said that Melanson-Heath had agreed to perform the financial audit for the Water Plant's FY2018 fiscal year, and they agreed to do it for the same price as Goulet-Salvidio had; \$12,000. The GM said that he had put no obligation on them to make this offer to us as a contingency for future business dealings with us on the Light Plant side. Melanson-Heath understood this and said that this is just how much a water audit should cost for a system our size. They will be coming in August 2018 to get started on it.

**New Business:**

The GM had prepared a preliminary (by 4 days) water sales summary report for FY2018. The summary showed total water sold at 112,946,224 gallons, less than in FY2017. It also showed total water revenue at \$1,516,129, less than in FY2017. He was predicting a nearly identical year for the upcoming FY2019 since he saw no signs of additional water usage by new or existing homes or businesses. The rate increase from May 2018 of 4.5% was only to support the Water Plant's OPEB liability and would not bring in any other revenue for any other purpose.

The WS updated the Board on a known water leak up at the DCAMM site in Templeton. A few hundred thousand gallons had leaked out of one of their water mains over the weekend and the state would now be looking at a \$5,000+ water bill. He thought it strange that the state employee who knew that the leak had started did not bother to come into work to shut anything off.

The GM and WS had been made aware of an illegal water service that had been installed at #14 Dennison Ave. A new line had been put into service without any inspections by the Water Plant, so the homeowner and/or contractor were told by the WS that it needed to be dug up to be inspected. We found out about this when the contractor called and asked if it was OK to turn the water to the house back ON; we never knew it was OFF.

**Other Business:**

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Chris, seconded by Dana, 3-0 favor the Water Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John M. Driscoll  
General Manager