

## **Board of Water and Sewer Commissioner's Meeting April 5, 2023.**

Agenda items may be taken out of order.

Present: Scott Zajkowski, Thomas Fournier, Jay Spahl, George Patrinos, Brian Dorval, and Bill Conley via telephone.

Absent: Robert Sullivan

In attendance: Frank McPartland, Robert Monfils, Jimmy George, and Ora Finn

Scott opened the meeting at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

**Accept the Minutes from March 15, 2023, Public Meeting:** *Tom made a motion to accept the minutes for the March 15, 2023, meeting, Jay seconded the motion, no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken, Tom Fournier, aye, Jay Spahl, aye, Scott Zajkowski, aye and Bill Conley, aye. Passed unanimously.*

**4 Elizabeth St- Robert Monfils-looking for an abatement:** Bob Monfils stated that back in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December he provided a hose with water to his neighbor's house because of a burst water line at the neighbors. This was done in conjunction with the Water Department. The house was run to the neighbors for about 1 week and it was during the extreme cold spell. Mr. Monfils is looking for an abatement of roughly about \$75.00 which if look over his past bills is more than his average use.

**Tom made a motion to give an abatement for \$75.00 to Robert Monfils of 4 Elizabeth Street, Jay seconded the motion, no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken, Tom Fournier, aye, Jay Spahl, aye, Scott Zajkowski, aye, and Bill Conley, aye. Passed unanimously.**

**Rob Elliot- 71B Dudley Hill Rd – Permit expired – permission to tie into water and sewer:** Mr. Elliot did not show to meeting.

### **Jesse Road Subdivision- Jimmy George-permission to tie into water and sewer:**

Jimmy Georges presented the same plan that was provided by Kevin Goodwin back in 2018 with just a little change to the number of houses, 18 total instead of 20 houses. George asked if the Planning Board had reviewed this, and Jimmy stated yes it had been. George stated that water sewer still needed to review the plan and they would be on site for inspections and supervision. Brian then stated a peer review by Tighe and Bond should be done through the Planning Board. Jimmy George is closing on the property on 4/26/2023. He will drop off a hard copy of plans for George and email over a pdf of the plans. A discussion occurred and Jimmy George will attend the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of Water Sewer Commissioners to get permission to tie in.

**Chase Mill- Frank McPartland:** Frank McPartland from Dillis and Roy was here this evening to go over what exactly would be happening and Chase Mill and explain where DMA Holdings is at. Mr. McPartland stated that it was his understanding that the water main on Schofield Ave to Chase Ave is an 8" CI and is in good shape. The problem is the 6" transite pipe that services Chase Ave to Office Hill and dead ends at that area. George stated that the main is in soft soil and is punky, if there is a break or issue the main gets shut down at Schofield Ave.

Frank McPartland: The application is before the planning board to construct pads around rear of building for manufacturing only on this site, there will be no cultivation at this time. They renovated the dispensary, and the rear of the building will be for manufacturing. There will not be a large increase in water usage. Jay asked if there would be a commercial kitchen with three bay sinks, Mr. McPartland did not know.

George stated just to be advised that if there is a problem you will be without water for at least 4-6 hours. Are you still doing the rerouting of the fire suppression line?

Mr. McPartland stated yes being re-routed from through the building to around the building. Tighe and Bond are in the process of doing a peer review for infrastructure and we have been communicating back and forth regarding questions and answers.

A discussion occurred regarding the size of the mains, water usage and quality. Scott thanked Mr. McPartland for coming and the information that was provided.

**Rate Increases:** Rate increase information was reviewed again.

***Tom made a motion recommended to raise the water rates by 20% for FY2024, Jay seconded the motion,*** a discussion occurred as to how this was going to affect people on a fixed income with the override vote. Tome stated I don't think we consider the override vote; this is separate. Brian stated that the increase is due to debt services coming due. Bill stated that this is inevitable. ***A roll call vote was taken, Tom Fournier, aye, Jay Spahl, aye, Bill Conley, aye, and Scott Zajkowski, aye. Passed unanimously.***

A discussion about the Sewer rates was next, it was decided to only raise the flat quarterly fee on sewer nothing more.

***Tom made a motion to raise the sewer flat quarterly fee to \$650.00, Jay seconded the motion, no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken, Tom Fournier, aye, Jay Spahl, aye, Bill Conley, aye, and Scott Zajkowski, aye. Passed unanimously.***

It was then discussed to send a bulk mailer to all the Water Sewer users with a letter regarding the rate increases as well as a water conservation information sheet. Will send information to Kerrin Graphics tomorrow. Also, will be posted in Webster Times for 2 weeks, be placed on all Social Media outlets and Cable Access as well as the front sign in front of the Town Hall.

**Paglione Drive – Sewer update:** George stated the details are in the Superintendent Report, but there was a sewer line collapse that affected 4 houses, the line was privately owned. The owners made 4 new connections with pumps to the sewer main.

**Warrant Articles for Town Meeting:** George stated we will need an article for Sewer Asset Management for \$200,000, will get wording from Tighe and Bond. Scott stated will review again on 5/3/23 meeting.

**FY2024 Budget and Budget/Revenue Review:** Brian stated that the current budget is looking good.

**Webster True Up:** Scott stated he received an email from the Webster Water Sewer Commission's Chairman Tom Andre on Monday looking to set up a meeting. Some dates were given, Tom stated we need to reach out to Paul Brinkman for some dates and then get back to Webster.

**Indirect Costs, Bills and Town Treasurer/Collector:** We received information on the Indirect Costs and sent questions to the Town Treasurer/Collector as well as an invited to tonight's meeting and did not receive a response back. Scott stated we need to put in an amount for Indirects. Brian suggested funding the indirect costs at \$52,500 each for Water and Sewer. This cuts the amount in half on each side as the Treasurer/Collector is one position and other positions listed as being paid are no longer current positions.

***Tom made a motion to cut the Water and Sewer Indirect Costs to \$52,500.00, Jay seconded the motion, no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken, Tom Fournier, aye, Jay Spahl, aye, Bill Conley, aye, and Scott Zajkowski, aye. Passed unanimously.***

Administrative Assistant to send email to Town Administrator and Town Accountant. I was also asked to research Water Districts and Enterprises for Fire Protection/Hydrant information.

**Superintendent Report:** The posting went out for the Sewer position the cutoff for the position is 4/12/2023. Looking at a prefab metal building for storage to use between water and sewer. Looking at all the possibilities. Flushing is being done sporadically due to only one person flushing right now, and the possibility of the person flushing at night.

**Public/Board Comments:** Scott stated that beginning in May there will road construction starting up in the area of First Ave to George, Fairview, Progress and West Main St, and this will be going on through the summer into the fall. Will send out Rave alert once have more definite information and times.

***Bill made a motion to adjourn, Tom seconded the motion, no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken, Tom Fournier, aye, Jay Spahl, aye, Bill Conley, aye, and Scott Zajkowski, aye. Passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.***

**\*\*Documents physically identified, discussed, considered, or voted on by the Board: \*\***

Posted agenda for April 5, 2023, meeting at 6:30pm Room 315

Minutes from 3/15/2023

Bill from 4 Elizabeth Street

Rate Increases Documents

FY 2024 Draft Budget

Budget and Revenue information

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Cournoyer, Administrative Assistant