

Board of Water and Sewer Commissioner's Meeting May 5, 2021

Present: Scott Zajkowski, William Conley, Tom Fournier, Robert Sullivan, Jay Spahl George Patrinos, and Jennifer Cournoyer

Attended Meeting: Linda Carter, Gloria Ferron, Cindy Lindholm Carter, Duane, and Deanne Kallgren.

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

Accept the minutes of April 7, 2021: *Tom made a motion to accept the minutes of February 3, 2021, Bob seconded the motion, no discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.*

36 Pine Street – Scott Hemming- Permission to tie into water: Scott came to a meeting a couple months ago and was granted permission to tie into town water, but he did not secure a deposit within the allowed time, so he lost the permit and had to re-apply.

Bill made a motion to allow Scott Hemming to tie into town water at 36 Pine Street following the guidance previously stated, Tom seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

306 Mason Rd Ext – Permission to tie into water: Duane and Deanne Kallgren were there representing her mother, Marie Deblois. Marie Deblois is currently on a well and having a lot of problems with low pressure and the age of the well. They are looking for permission to tie into town water when the new mains are relaced on Mason Rd Ext as the main runs right in front of her house. A discussion occurred regarding the placement of her line and location. George stated that would be no problem with them tying into town water.

Tom made a motion to give permission to tie into water at 306 Mason Rd Ext, Jay seconded the motion, no further discussion, a vote was taken, all in favor, passed unanimously.

Sewer for G & S Drive – Gerrienne Owens: No one showed to the meeting to discuss

Linda Carter and Cindy Carter- regarding PFAS and quality of water:

Linda Carter of 29 Schofield Ave stated that she is concerned at the amount of PFAS in the water. She has a compromised immune system and kidney transplant recipient. She wants to know what are you doing to correct the problem, and do you expect us to pay for bottled water?

Scott: We are in the process of blending the water and then a temporary treatment facility.

Cindy Carter of 1 Third Ave: Does everyone in town get the same water? Is it being tested right from the well?

Scott: Yes, to both

Cindy: I am on a fixed income and cannot be suppling bottled water for drinking, cooking, and my animals. In 27 years, I have noticed a difference in the water and now it is not safe.

George: PFAS has just started to be regulated, but it has been in the water for decades. We started earlier than most towns because we were replacing a well and DEP stated must test for PFAS when putting new well online. Tested and found PFAS. When talking about PFAS and parts per trillion, PPT we are talking about 1 drop of water in 660,000 gallons of water. DEP had us put out this notice as an advisory. It is going to take time for a treatment process. We started blending and are awaiting the results from the blending. We test for PFAS every month. We are in the process of putting in a temporary vessel at the source and then permanent treatment.

Bob: EPA regulated PFAS at 70 ppt and now DEP has it at 20 ppt. We are at a 20 level right now and that meets the regulatory level.

George: We do not want you to be scared, it is an advisory. The water has been the same for a long time this is just newly regulated.

Bob: Explained the health advisory and that it would take drinking 2 liters of water daily for 70 years. Explained what PFAS is and how it is in everything.

Cindy: Does the town have anything for point of entry like a filter on a faucet?

Bob: we cannot provide because it would put liability on us and when we provide treatment to the water, we then must sample it at the site and that would require testing all of them.

Cindy: Which filter would work?

Bob: an approved GAC filter or Reverse Osmosis

Cindy: Could you put a notice out to people with this information?

Bob: We are working with DEP daily, we have applied for a loan through DEP which is a 0% loan, now our biggest concern is getting it passed at the Town Meeting.

Attorney Hank Naughton – PFAS: Town Counsel is working with Attorney Naughton to come up with an agreeable contract for review.

Webster Wastewater True-up: called Paul Brinkman via conference phone as he could not attend the meeting in person. Paul had a chance to review the document provided from Webster regarding the true-up. Paul has a few concerns, there is no back up documentation for the numbers. Some of the numbers seem alarming. One is the Replacement Treatment Capital Costs, that seems high. The true-up information should be supplied yearly in October and there is a penalty for not providing information in a timely manner, penalty is around \$300,000.00. Second, Webster indirect costs starts around \$410,000 and ends at \$640,000, almost double and the actual costs of the treatment plant has gone down over ten (10) years.

Tom: Paul do you have time to help us out with this?

Paul: Yes, I do, first thing I would recommend writing a letter asking for a few things and see what they come up with. I could draft up a letter and send over a proposal and estimate for services.

Superintendent's Report: George submitted a written report for the board's review prior to the meeting. No questions or concerns regarding report.

Policy Review: a discussion occurred regarding the three policies presented for review. Scott asked each member to review and be ready to work on for next month.

Tom made a motion to adjourn, Bob seconded the motion, a vote was taken, Tom, Bob, Bill Jay, and Scott, all in favor, unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Cournoyer, Administrative Assistant