



## TOWN OF PAXTON

Water Commissioners

Minutes of Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 17, 2016

Time: 7:00pm

Meeting Place: John Bauer Senior Center, 17 West Street, Paxton, MA 01612

Attendees: Carol Riches, Town Administrator; Jack Malone, Commissioner; Rodney Jenkins, Commissioner; Dave Trulson, Commissioner; Mike Putnam, DPW & Water Superintendent; Travis Thibault, Water Foreman, Neil Bagdis, Planning Board

Guests: Kevin Quinn (Engineer on behalf of Stage One Investors/Bel Arbor Estates)

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

### Minutes

Motion (JM) seconded (RJ) to accept the meeting minutes of October 20, 2016. Unanimous, all in favor.

### Bel Arbor Estates

- (KQ) began by expressing concerns about the water main extension for Bel Arbor Estates and asked what he could do to help.
- (MP) responded by sharing a letter dated November 9, 2016 which details the Water Board's decision on the Bel Arbor Estates Subdivision. He explained that the Planning Board disagreed with the letter because they feel that the Town cannot force a developer to bear the costs associated with upgrading the infrastructure for this subdivision. (MP) suggests that we rescind the letter dated November 9, 2016 and that the Water Board approve the development the way it was designed. He also suggests that the Water Department let the Fire Dept. handle any concerns regarding fire flows that were presented in Tata & Howard's letter dated June 9, 2016.
- A lengthy discussion continued regarding the Fire department's role in regards to fire flow recommendations presented by current and future hydraulic studies. (NB) also spoke about the importance of communication between town departments in order to ensure that all departments are satisfied with the decisions on new subdivisions. The general agreement was to ask the Fire department for their approval of the fire flows in the proposed Bel Arbor Subdivision.
- Motion (RJ) seconded (DT) to rescind the Water Board's letter to the Planning Board dated November 9, 2016.
- Motion (JM) seconded (DT) to accept original plan on the Bel Arbor Subdivision contingent upon the Fire Dept.'s approval of the fire flows.

#### Michael Putnam, DPW & Water Superintendent

- (MP) stated that he purchased (36) new water meters to replace aging meters that are failing to pick up water readings electronically. He said that we need to plan on spending a significant amount of money in the future for our meter replacement program.
- (MP) stated that the Light Dept. and Water Dept. had a meeting to go over the growing "trouble meter list". He stated that the Light Dept. is looking to update their computer system and meter software. There will be a presentation at the end of November on a new type of meter that the Light Dept. is considering.
- (MP) discussed an "Ice Picking" seminar/demo that he attended. It is a more aggressive alternative to flushing that has some advantages. He noted that it may be something to consider in the future.

#### Travis Thibault, Water Foreman

- (TT) discussed the aging pump station and old fire hydrants and the need to plan for these upgrades in the future.
- (TT) stated that there was a structure fire on Pine St. and the Fire Dept. snapped two hydrants and they may need to be replaced.
- (TT) stated that there was a 6" water main break on Crestwood. Fixing went as planned and there was nothing out of the ordinary.
- There was a brief discussion about water rates and charges as compared to other municipal water departments. For the next meeting, Travis will 1) find water rates for municipalities comparable in size (2) update Rules & Regulations to add that fire flows to new subdivisions would be subject to Fire Dept.'s approval and (3) bring the cost sheet listing our current costs.

#### Water Department Rules & Regulations

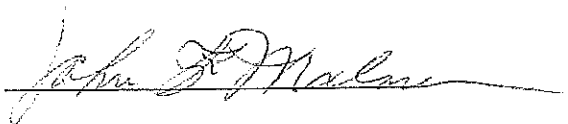
- (JM) motioned (RJ) seconded to approve Water Department Rules & Regulations with the exception of anything related to subdivisions. Unanimous, all in favor.

At 8:36pm, Dave Trulson motioned to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Jack Malone.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peloquin, DPW Admin. Assistant

Accepted:



John Malone, Chair



TOWN OF PAXTON  
Water Commissioners  
107 Holden Road, Paxton, MA 01612  
508-753-9077  
nputnam@townofpaxton.net

November 9, 2016

Neil Bagdis, Chair  
Paxton Planning Board  
697 Pleasant Street  
Paxton, MA 01612

Dear Neil,

The Town of Paxton Water Commissioners met on October 20, 2016 to discuss the Bel Arbor Estates Subdivision proposal. At the conclusion of discussion, the Board voted to accept the recommendations of a hydraulic evaluation by Tata and Howard Engineers outlined in a letter dated June 9, 2016. This would require the upgrade of the existing 6 inch water main on Bel Arbor Drive and a portion of Holden Road (Approximately 1700 linear feet) to a new 8 inch diameter line.

The purpose would be to eliminate hydraulic deficiencies in the existing mains and aim to provide recommended fire flow of 500 GPM to the new development extension; although there was no guarantee that this would be met.

The Board also noted the Water Department Enterprise is unable to fund the upgrade at this time, therefore requiring the Developer bear all costs associated with such. Initial estimates indicated that pipe material alone would amount to \$50,000 with final costs of over \$100,000.

Please note that nothing in this memo changes the requirements of the Subdivision Rules & Regulations in respect to Water (Section 4.8.2).

Sincerely,

John F. Malone, Chair  
Paxton Water Commissioner