



## TOWN OF PAXTON

Water Commissioners

Minutes of Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 26, 2017

Time: 7:00pm

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

Attendees: Jack Malone, Commissioner; Rodney Jenkins, Commissioner; Mike Putnam, DPW & Water Superintendent ; Travis Thibault, Water Foreman

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm.

### Minutes

Motion (RJ) seconded (JM) to accept the meeting minutes of November 17, 2016. Unanimous, all in favor.

### Michael Putnam, DPW & Water Superintendent

- FY 17 Budget – (MP) states that Pipes & Fittings, Hydrants, and Meters are the line items where we spend the most money. We purchased a couple of hydrants this year and are replacing a lot of aging meters. The Meters line item will be overspent this year and we will take money from another line item to meet our needs. Also, Worcester water is on budget although we are using more water this year.
- (MP) stated that we just received the report on the Asnebumskit tank inspection that was completed in May 2016. The report found the tank to be in good shape and structurally sound. The recommendations from the inspection are mostly safety measures such as netting in the man hatch, guardrails on the outer perimeter of tank and man hatch, and repair to a locking mechanism on the hatch.

### Travis Thibault, Water Foreman

- (TT) states that he continues to work on Asset Management Plan
- (TT) states that the City of Worcester has changed the Stage 3 Drought Emergency to a Stage 2 Drought Warning. He has posted copies of the notice around all of the town buildings and made the update through the DEP. He also stated the Worcester reservoirs are showing improvement.
- (TT) noted that there were (2) water main breaks over the past month; one at the corner of Marshall St. and Suomi St. and the other on Suomi St. Both were repaired with no issues.
- There were also (2) service breaks; one at 14 West St. and the other at 145 West St. The break at 145 West St. was on the homeowner's side and they took care of the repair.

- (TT) noted that he replaced a fire hydrant in the vicinity of 52 Camp St. It was the last "open left" fire hydrant in town. The remaining hydrants in town are "open right".
- There were two houses that were abandoned and the pipes froze and water was leaking. Water was shut off to those homes. The addresses were 623 Pleasant St. and 45 Richards Ave.
- (TT) noted that it appears that the home at 15 Orchard Dr. is empty and no one is living there. The property owner is deceased and we do not have any contact info for the estate. Travis will post a notice on the house warning that the water will be shut off unless we are able to make contact with someone regarding the water service.
- (TT) provided an inventory list of the fire hydrants in town which details the age and condition of all of the hydrants.
- (TT) noted that he has been having issues with the backup generator at the pump station. We are in the process of repairing and replacing parts but it is operational.
- (TT) states that he is looking into some grants for the Water Dept. He would like to get a grant to cover the costs of updating the SCADA system to incorporate the new water tank with the old tank on the same system. He will start getting prices on this.

#### **Water Meter Replacement Program**

- (TT) states that we are accounting for more of our water but we are still losing water through bad meters. Meters are failing and we need to be more aggressive in replacing them.
- (MP) and (TT) met with the Light Dept. and Honeywell (the manufacturer) at the end of November to discuss new "smart meters". We are still waiting for a quote from Honeywell.
- Both (TT) and (MP) recommend buying meters that would be compatible with smart meters in the event that the Light Dept. decides to switch over to that type of meter in the future. (TT) and (MP) are getting prices on different styles of meters. We will continue to keep the issue of meters open for discussion at future meetings.

#### **Water Department Rules & Regulations**

- (TT) amended the Rules and Regulations and removed the section regarding subdivisions and presented it to the Board. This also included the Appendix titled "Paxton Water Dept. Service Charges". (RJ) motioned and (JM) seconded to approve the Final Water Department Rules & Regulations. Unanimous, all in favor.

**At 8:28pm, Rodney Jenkins motioned to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Jack Malone.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Peloquin, DPW Admin. Assistant

Accepted:



John Malone, Chair

# Paxton Water Dept. Service Charges

Updated 3/12/15

| SERVICE PERFORMED  | SERVICE RATE  | Rate/hr. | NOTES   |
|--|---|----------|---|
| Residential water service hook-up fee for single family home     | \$5,000.00  |          | Subject to the approval of the Board of Water Commissioners   |
| Residential water service hook-up fee other than single family   | \$5000.00 with an additional \$1250.00 per bedroom/unit |          | Subject to the approval of the Board of Water Commissioners   |
| Water service hook ups fee for properties other than residential | \$5000.00 up to one inch domestic feed line.            |          | Greater than one inch domestic feed will be an additional \$1250/inch For example:<br>1" to 2" \$6,250.00<br>2" to 3" \$7,500.00<br>3" to 4" \$8,750.00 |
| Turn on/off at the curb  |   | \$50.00  | Minimum of 1 hour   |
| Seasonal turn off/on & meter pulled                              |   | \$50.00  | Minimum of 1 hour   |
| Test/Re-Test of Backflow Device                                  | \$50.00   |          | Rates may be reduced if multiple devices are located on premises  |
| Cross Connection Survey  | \$35.00   |          | Per Survey  |
| High Pressure Flow Test  |   | \$50.00  | Plus water usage  |
| Meter Test (at customers request)                                | \$60.00   |          | For up to 1" meters. No cost if meter fails, fee only applies if meter passes   |
| Temporary water hookup   |   | \$50.00  | Plus water usage  |
| Replacement of Cellar Valve                                      |   | \$50.00  | Plus cost of materials  |
| New Meter Setup  |   | \$50.00  | Plus cost of materials (when the replacement is due to the customer's negligence)   |
| Backhoe with Operator  |   | \$50.00  | If applicable   |
| Dump truck with operator   |   | \$50.00  | If applicable   |
| Laborer  |   | \$50.00  | <b>4 Hour Minimum</b> at O.T. RATES apply after regular business hours  |
| Meter Pit  |   |          | (If required) cost of materials   |
| Water Main Tap   | \$225.00  |          |   |
| Meter Testing (meters larger than 1")                            | \$160.00  |          | Additional labor rates may apply. Meters will be tested in accordance with state and federal recommendations.)  |

## Notes:

A residential property is any property where people are residing. Any meter greater than one inch will be at the expense of the consumer. Other fees may apply at the discretion of the Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, or the Board of Water Commissioners.

*John D. Malone*  
*Reddyman 1/26/17*