



TOWN OF PAXTON Water Commissioners Minutes of Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 11, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

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

Attendees: Jack Malone, Commissioner; David Trulson, Commissioner; Rodney Jenkins, Commissioner; Travis Thibault, Water Superintendent; Carol Riches, Town Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Minutes

Motion (RJ) seconded (DT) to accept the meeting minutes of June 28, 2018. Unanimous, all in favor.

Spaulding Woods Project

The Water Department received a \$25,000 check on August 9, 2018 from Robert Clark for the Spaulding Woods Project (deposited as FY19). 700' of 8" main was installed and there is a hydrant at the cul-de-sac. All services were tapped and ran to the curb stops. The main has passed the pressure test. Still waiting to hear back about the bacteria sample.

Anna Maria College new Fire Protection System (Campus Center)

The fire suppression system at Anna Maria College was completed in August. The system has passed all necessary tests.

28 Lincoln Circle Meter Issue

The Water Department was contacted by Mrs. Copp, the homeowner at 28 Lincoln Circle, in the Spring of 2018. Mrs. Copp was concerned about high water bills and requested that her meter be tested. In June of 2018, her meter was swapped out. Unfortunately, there was an issue with her old meter and it could not be tested. Mrs. Copp is requesting a reimbursement. After reviewing her water usage, (TT) suggested reimbursing Mrs. Copp 25% of her water bills, which equals \$48.73. Motion (JM) seconded (DT) to approve reimbursement to Mrs. Copp in the amount of \$48.73. Unanimous, all in favor.

Current and Upcoming Grants

The Water Department applied for and has been awarded a GAP II Grant in the amount of \$22,814. Said Grant will allow for energy efficiency upgrades at the Pump Station on Route 122 including pump station motors, an HVAC system and a dehumidifier. The Water Department needs to spend the money and will be reimbursed by the Grant for 90% (equaling \$22,814) of the expenses. (CR) advised that three quotes will need to be obtained. (TT) will contact contractors for quotes.

The Water Department has applied for a MIIA Grant and is waiting to hear whether or not said Grant is approved. (TT) hopes that said Grant, if awarded, will allow for the purchase of a new trench box.

(TT) told the Board that there should be some infrastructure improvement grants available in the next few years and the Water Department intends to apply for said grants, where applicable. (TT) also advised that engineering must be completed before applying for said grants. (TT) suggested taking money from the Water Enterprise Fund to pay for said engineering. (CR) advised that such a request would need to go to a Town Meeting vote.

Water Superintendent Reports and Updates

Water Main Breaks

In August of 2018, the city of Worcester had a major water main break near the Greendale Mall. (TT) made the decision to shut down and not draw from the city, so as to avoid any potential issues related to the break and water quality. Residents were notified by CODE RED of the break, as well as when the break was rectified.

On September 14, 2018, there were two water main breaks that occurred on Crystal Street. Said breaks were repaired. (TT) suggested that the Water Department begin to align the replacement of water mains with the paving of streets, ideally installing a main one year prior to the paving of any road.

Water Quality

A few residents on Holbrook Lane have been experiencing water quality issues. (TT) has performed leak detection and did not locate any leak. (TT) will continue to flush as necessary and suggests that when the water main on West Street is replaced, the main on Holbrook Lane be replaced, as well.

In September of 2018, water samples were collected to test for lead and copper. Twenty residential samples were collected, as well as two samples from Anna Maria College and two samples from Paxton Center School. All samples were below the MCL limits. Letters were sent to all those that participated in the Lead and Copper sampling with all required language, and sample results included in said letters.

On October 9, 2018, water samples were collected. The lab reported that two of the samples (Asnebumskit Tank and Richards Avenue) contained growth. Flushing was done and new samples were collected. Of those new samples, only one on Richards Avenue still contained growth. The lab is still analyzing the growth but has stated that it is absent of e.coli. (TT) has contacted the DEP regarding the samples. (TT) advised the Board that there is a patch on the top of the Asnebumskit Tank that has been repaired several times and will likely need to be replaced soon.

Pickup Truck Lease

(TT) notified the Board that a pickup truck has been leased as per Article 16 of the FY2019 Town Warrant.

Annual Report

(TT) presented the Water Department's Annual Report to the Board for review. Said Report was unanimously approved.

Meters

160 new meters have been installed. There are approximately 1,100 meters that still need to be installed.

Water Hookups

(TT) brought to the Board's attention that there is a house being built on Pleasant Street for which he has not yet received a Water Service application or the fee associated with the application.

The Board approved and signed a water hookup request for a property being built on Richards Avenue.

FY18 Budget

(TT) states that in FY18, the Water Department was able to put \$85,253 into the Water Enterprise Fund. (CR) stated that such an accomplishment is due largely in part to the vigilant stewardship of (TT) in regard to the Department's budget.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for November 1, 2018.

Motion (JM) seconded (RJ) to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Sidhom, DPW Administrative Assistant

Accepted:  11/1/18
John Malone, Chair

Documents: GAP II Grant, MIIA Grant, Annual Report on file at Water Department.