



## **TOWN OF PAXTON Water Commissioners Minutes of Meeting**

**Date: Thursday, September 26, 2019**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

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

Attendees: Rodney Jenkins, Commissioner; David Trulson, Commissioner; Travis Thibault, Water Superintendent; Carol Riches, Town Administrator; Tiffany Sidhom, Administrative Assistant

Absent: John Malone, Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

### **Acceptance of Meeting Minutes**

Motion (RJ) seconded (DT) to accept the meeting minutes from August 8, 2019. Unanimous, all in favor.

### **Temporary Transfer of Funds**

Treasurer has asked to borrow \$300,000 from the Water Enterprise Fund on a quarterly basis (July 1<sup>st</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup>, January 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>). Motion (DT) seconded (RJ) to approve such borrowing provided that adequate funds are in the Water Enterprise Fund at the time of borrowing.

### **22 Cutler Road Claim Findings**

The customer at 22 Cutler Road claimed that there was damage to his home as a result of the July 2, 2019 water main break. MIIA, the Town's insurance company, investigated the claim and settled with customer for \$7,045.52. The Water Department will be responsible for a \$2,500 deductible.

### **Department of Labor Standards Findings**

On August 14, 2019, the Department of Labor Standards ("DLS") visited the Water Department and the Birchwood Drive site to perform an inspection. On August 19, 2019, the DLS issued a Written Warning and Order to Correct, a copy of which is available at the Water Department. On September 6, 2019 (TT) responded to the Written Warning with the requested updates and information. On September 12, 2019, the DLS sent a letter stating that they were satisfied and the case file was closed.

## **Trench Safety Policy Update**

In response to the DLS' Written Warning and Order to Correct, (TT) added section 6.10 "Installation of Pipe" to the Trench Safety Policy, a copy of which is available at the Water Department. The section references the need to use tag lines and procedures to avoid pinch zones.

## **Water Use Restriction**

(TT) recommends a water use restriction be put in place as of September 30, 2019 due to the Asnebumskit water tank being taken offline for rehabilitation work. A CodeRED message was sent out to customers on September 23, 2019 notifying them of the restriction. Motion (DT) seconded (RJ) to implement a water use restriction as of September 30, 2019.

## **Asnebumskit Tank Rehabilitation**

Suez is scheduled to begin work on the Asnebumskit water tank on September 30, 2019. The work is projected to last at least 6-8 weeks. (TT) reminded the Board that the Maple Street tank is not tied into the SCADA system. Presently, there are many unknown variables. (TT) stated that the worst case scenario would be that the pumps will need to be manually started and stopped every two to four hours for the duration of the project, which would require a large amount of overtime. The best case scenario would be that the pumps can be started and stopped from an electronic device which would not require as much overtime. (TT) asked that David Tardie be allowed to take the Water Department van home in the event that overtime hours become frequent. The Board stated that this is acceptable.

## **Water Superintendent Reports and Updates**

On September 26, 2019, a 2" fire suppression line and a 1" domestic water line were laid at 2 Pine Street.

The water main replacement project on Birchwood Road still needs to be completed, but has been put on hold until the backhoe is available.

## **FY20 Budget**

The Board reviewed the FY20 budgets to date.

**Motion (DT) seconded (RJ) to adjourn meeting at 7:40 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Sidhom, DPW Administrative Assistant

Accepted: \_\_\_\_\_

David Trulson, Vice Chair