



Approved: 9/22/2020  
(date)

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

**Date: Thursday, September 3, 2020**

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

**REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM**

Present: John Malone (JM), Chair  
David Trulson (DT), Vice Chair  
Rodney Jenkins (RJ), Clerk (via telephone)  
Travis Thibault (TT), Water Superintendent  
Carol Riches (CR), Town Administrator  
Tiffany Sidhom, Administrative Assistant

Additional: Anthony Rakic, resident at 25 Lawrence Street

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m. (RJ) called in via telephone. All other members attended via Zoom.

(TT) read the Remote Meeting Preamble.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

Motion (RJ) seconded (DT) to accept the meeting minutes from August 6, 2020. Unanimous, all in favor.

25 Lawrence Street – water main extension

The resident at 25 Lawrence Street (Anthony Rakic) contacted the Water Department to inquire about connecting to town water; he is mostly concerned about the low water pressure his well provides. (TT) put together a proposal for the cost to extend the water main approximately 150' and connect the property to town water. Mr. Rakic is asking the Board if there is anything that can be done about the cost, which is not within his budget.

The Board offered a payment plan, spread over twelve months and added to Mr. Rakic's monthly utility bill. Mr. Rakic conceded that the expense was still too much for his budget and would, instead, look into purchasing a water filtration system especially since, after some discussion, it would not be likely that his water pressure would improve after connecting to town water.

### Water Billings Rendered

The Board will review and approve at the next meeting after (TT) has a chance to review the discrepancies in the July 2020 figures provided by the Paxton Municipal Light Department.

### 118 West Street – connection to well

The requested results from ETR Labs for the water in the existing well at 118 West Street were provided to the Board. Since the results are within allowable limits, there is an existing well on the property and the house will be set far back from the road, the Board will make a one-time exception and waive the requirement to tie into town water. Motion (JM) seconded (RJ) to let the residents use the existing well on the property instead of tie into town water. Unanimous, all in favor.

### 95 Marshall Street – request to connect to town water

The homeowner at 95 Marshall Street submitted an application to connect to town water, but without the required \$5,000 connection fee. The homeowner has requested that the Board let him spread the \$5,000 fee over a course of payments. The Board declines a payment agreement at this time, but welcomes the homeowner to attend the next meeting and speak on his behalf.

### Village Road – hydrant location issues

The contractor building units on Village Road has requested permission to move a fire hydrant that is in one of the driveways of a new unit for which the foundation has been poured. (TT) noted that the contractor has dug up and installed services at this project without applications or payment. The Board instructs (TT) to contact the Town's Building Inspector and Planning Board about the situation, and report back to the Board before any decisions are made.

### 2 Hemlock Street – water connection

The water service at 2 Hemlock Street has been installed and the property is now connected to town water.

### SCADA System

On August 23, 2020 around 5:00 p.m., the Asnebumskit water tank was hit by lightning, damaging the telemetry panel and PLC in the panel, and the tank signal was lost. The system had to be run remotely for a week. Per the Town Administrator's recommendation, MIIA, the Town's insurance company, was contacted and will cover much of the cost.

R.E. Erickson is performing the work of replacing the damaged equipment and advised that many issues were encountered because of the age of the existing equipment, which is no longer in production and/or new/replacement parts are not compatible with the existing equipment. (TT) recommends that upgrading the SCADA system ASAP be made a priority. He will obtain a quote from R.E. Erickson for the upgrades, with hope that it can be allocated for in the FY2022 budget.

### Late Fees

Paxton Municipal Light Department will waive late fees on electricity bills through calendar year 2020. Motion (JM) seconded (DT) to waive late fees on water bills for the same duration.

### Superintendent Reports and Updates

- The chemical feed lines have been replaced.
- At the Asnebumskit water tank, Troy Brown will install the electrical service within the next couple of weeks. Paxton Municipal Light Department has ordered the wire.
- SUEZ will be back out at the end of September to start doing the exterior rehab at the Asnebumskit water tank. The whole project should be completed by mid-November.
- At the end of FY2020, \$60,910.06 was put into the Water Enterprise Fund.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion (RJ) seconded (DT) to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. Unanimous, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Sidhom, Administrative Assistant