

**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 16, 2010
MEETING ROOM 014**

Present: Dennis Ferreira, Jeff Weise, Jared Adams, Doug Valovcin, Ron Sharpin

Geoff Zeamer, Conservation Commission member, arrived at 6:30pm.
Jon Beekman, SEA, arrived at 6:30pm.
Paul Saulnier, reporter, arrived at 6:30pm.
Joseph Gaied, property owner, arrived at 6:30pm
Jackie Napolitano, 167 Pleasant Street, arrived at 6:30pm.
Joe Rego, 51 Pleasant Street, arrived at 6:30pm.
John Wadewitz, 50 Pleasant Street, arrived at 6:30pm.

Meeting began at 6:30pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joseph Gaied, owner of business property in East Holliston, appeared before the board to discuss his high water bill that was due to running of a tenant's toilet during the OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009 billing period. He questioned the KP System's ability to flag high water usage. He has five tenants that share one meter - splitting the meters has been determined to be too expensive.

Mr. Sharpin talked about hiring a new employee who would monitor the usage. He proposed charging a fee to only business properties in exchange for usage monitoring.

Mr. Gaied was interested on the proposal. The following was also discussed:

- Water rate hearing
- Monthly billing for business properties
- Liability with Water Department employee monitoring
- Placing alarm on water meter

Mr. Weise will get back in mid-April to Mr. Gaied after investigating the issue further.

Geoff Zeamer, member of the Conservation Commission, appeared before the board to solicit cooperation and sharing of data relating to the drainage problems in a section of Mudville. Some house foundations and barns are now completely surrounded by water. The Highway Department has opened trenches and has been draining the area. Mr. Zeamer requested water usage data from the Water Department. He is looking at small leaks and usage changes in the attempt to solve the problem long-term..

The Water Department conducts a LEAK DETENSION survey every year and has no record of leaks in that area.

Jackie Napolitano reported that her backyard is now under water. The culvert in back has collapsed. John Wadewitz and Joe Rego both spoke about their problems with the flooding and their desire to return their property to "the way it was twenty years ago".

Mr. Zeamer proposed a joint arrangement between the Water Department and the Conservation Commission to determine the reason behind the flooding. He will send a memo requesting this cooperation to the Water Department.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The board found no water issues with the ZBA application on Exchange Street and at Chamberlain Pines.

Carl Damigella, Selectman, arrived at 7:11pm.

MT HOLLIS STORAGE TANK EASEMENT – STATUS

There has been no response yet regarding the road easement to the Mt. Hollis storage tank. Mr. Weise spoke with Joseph Antonellis, Special Town Counsel, on March 10, 2010. Mr. Antonellis will deliver the package to Carol Damigella, owner of the property. Mr. Adams reminded the board that they need a “defined easement”. Cellular Antenna companies have requested clarification of the road access.

Mr. Ferreira voiced concerns about the blasting at the Cutler Heights development. The blasting direction appears to be aimed at the Mt. Hollis storage tank location. He insisted that a seismograph be placed at the tank. He also wanted to know if a pre-blasting survey had been conducted. Mr. Sharpin and Mr. Valovcin agreed to visit the site tomorrow. Mr. Ferreira requested that an e-mail be sent to board members regarding the outcome of tomorrow’s site visit.

CELLULAR ANTENNA LEASE BIDS – STATUS

The cellular antenna leases for Verizon and MetroPCS have been accepted.

A new Request for Proposal for cellular antenna leases on Beatrice Road, Oak Street, and Hopping Brook storage tanks is due on April 2, 2010.

DEP NOTICE OF DETERMINATION AT WELL #2

An action plan has been sent to the DEP regarding the DEP Notice of Determination at Well #2. The DEP has agreed that the replacement of the well is “a reasonable and acceptable approach.”

They will prepare an “Administrative Consent Order” (ACO) for the Water Department to proceed.

SEA is preparing the permit for the department.

The DEP also agreed to the chlorine contact time proposal which involves installing the correct size pipe. The Water Department needs to remove the septic systems out of

ZONE1 (expected to be completed in FY 2012). The board discussed Paul Saulnier's estimate on the costs involved for creating a new area for the distribution area. Mr. Saulnier was asked to update his estimate.

Mr. Sharpin distributed the latest timetable for the action plan. He expects to put in the well in December 2010 or January 2011.

WELL #4 – STATUS

The Conservation Commission is meeting on March 23, 2010 to discuss the application for the removal of the beaver dam.

DEP has sent notice that they have accepted the plan.

Army Corps of Engineers Charles River Valley Storage Coordinator has given permission to enter their property to remove the dam.

After the meeting, the department will proceed.

Notice from DEP that there would be no waiver on the 350foot radius but have given permission for the one that is within 250 feet of the current well.

Mr. Sharpin has prepared a contract amendment with SEA for \$42,000.00 to begin preparing the permit, sent to DEP, find a driller, and begin the drilling.

The board signed a contract amendment with SEA.

WELL #7 – STATUS

Senator Kerry has reported to the Selectmen that he has contacted the Corps of Engineers regarding the status of Well #7.

PERSONNEL

The board signed an agreement between Richard Chartrand, System Field Operator, to serve as "Acting Chief Operator" for the Holliston Water Department. Mr. Chartrand started on March 15, 2010.

Gary Haines Sr., Chief Operator, has been on sick leave since January 2010. He has an appointment with the town's doctor on March 23, 2010. Mr. Sharpin was asked to send Mr. Haines' job description to the town's doctor.

NPDES – PERMIT FOR WELL #6

Mr. Sharpin submitted the permit to the EPA/DEP this month.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

The ASR report is due April 2010.

WINSTON BUILDERS MEDIATION

Mediation for the Winston Builders lawsuit will be held on March 23, 2010. Oral statements will be delivered by Mr. Adams.

STORAGE TANK REPAIRS BIDS

Bids for repairs on three storage tanks are due March 30, 2010.

NEW ENGLAND WATER WORKS CONFERENCE

Board members and field staff will be attending the NEWWC in Holliston which is held on March 30 and 31, 2010.

FLOURIDE NEW STORIES

Media stories about problems with fluoride prompted questions about the fluoride used in the treatment of Holliston water. Mr. Valovcin assured the board that the department used fluoride that dissolves so there is no problem.

REFUSAL TO INSTALL NEW METERS AND MTUS – STATUS

The property owner who has refused to allow the installation of a new meter and MTU is in the process of being foreclosed. The attorneys for the foreclosure have requested the owner's outstanding water bill.

WATER BILL INSERTS

The next water bill (January/February/March water usage) will be mailed April 15, 2010. The board discussed the following:

- Inserting a notice regarding the tampering with MTU devices
- Adding fines for MTU device tampering in the Rules & Regulations
- Inserting a notice regarding the possibility of a water ban this Spring
- Putting stickers on meters and MTU devices regarding tampering
- Adding a notice on the back side of the bill that lists tampering and fines (with a note to "see Reverse Side" on the front of the bill)

Mr. Adams made a motion: **"Motion that any tampering or removal of MTU devices or the water meter by a party not a member of the Water Department is forbidden and a fine in addition to the charge for the re-installation of the equipment will be made to the property owner"**

Mr. Weise seconded the motion.

Mr. Weise, Mr. Ferreira, and Mr. Adams voted in favor of the motion.

The bills will be sent to the printers on April 6, 2010.

KP SYSTEMS – METERS

KP Systems will continue to send small batches of MTUs to the Water Department.

SYSTEMS OPERATOR POSITION – STATUS

Daniel Berthelette has been hired as a System Operator. He began working March 8, 2010. After a period of training, he will switch to a Tuesday-through -Saturday work week.

FST MEETING

Mr. Sharpin will be meeting on March 17, 2010 with Fay, Spofford, and Thorndike who are working on the Water Department Master Plan. He will be projecting costs for Capital projects. There will also be training on the “model”.

PUMPED VERSUS METERED

The board discussed the 20% discrepancy between the numbers for water pumped and water billed. They also insist that KP Systems must shorten the time for reporting on NON-ACTIVE meters as well as correct the reports on roll-over and replacement meters.

One option discussed was the shutdown of Well #6 as soon as the waters recede since Well #2 is not run when there is heavy precipitation.
Jon Beekman left at 8:40pm.

CAPITAL PROJECTS – STATUS

The board will meet with the Finance Committee on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 to present their FY11 budget.

The board reviewed the FY2010 budget as presented by Mr. Sharpin. Discussed were the following items:

- Well #4
- Well #2
- Search for new sources of water
- Mixer installation and use

Carl Damigella left at 8:45pm.

The board distinguished between capital projects that will be completed by the end of FY10 (June 30, 2010) and projects that will extend past June 30, 2010.

Mr. Adams left at 9:16pm.

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Three following tasks remain for the FY2011 budget process:

FY11 Operating Budget review

Two to three items to change/remove/reissue articles for Town Meeting

Water Rate increase evaluation

MINUTES REVIEW

No minutes were reviewed at the meeting.

INVOICES AND CHANGE ORDERS

Invoices and change orders were signed at the meeting.

Mr. Weise made a motion: **“Motion to adjourn”**

Mr. Ferreira seconded the motion.

Mr. Weise and Mr. Ferreira voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Adams had already left.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Next BWC meeting – Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Keating

Clerk

Approved 4/21/10 as written

Board of Water Commissioners Meeting

March 16, 2010

(Meeting to start at 6:30 PM in Room #014)

- **Public Comments - (6:30- 7:00)**
 - *Joseph Graied-commercial accounts
 - *Geoff Zeamer-Conservation Comm-water levels in Mudville
- **ZBA-applications – (7:00-7:10)**
- **Mt Hollis Tank easement-status – (7:10-7:15)**
- **Cellular Antenna – Status - (7:15-7:20)**
 - *Leases - status
 - *RFP-due April 2nd
- **DEP Notice of Determination-Status- (7:20-7:40)**
 - *Well #2-Action Plan-status
- **Well #4 – status - (7:40-8:00)**
 - *SEA Contract Amendment
 - *Action Plan – status
 - *Beaver Dam – CC WPA Form 3 status
- **Well #7-status-(8:00)**
- **Prepare for meeting with the Finance Committee – (8:00-9:00)**
- **Water Department Activities – (9:00-9:30)**
 - *NPDES Permit for Well #6 – renewal submitted to EPA/DEP
 - *ASR – due March
 - *Winston Legal – mediation on March 23rd
 - *Water Tanks Repairs – pre-bid meeting – March 22nd
 - *Water Tanks Repairs – bids due March 30th
 - *NEWWA Conference – March 30-31st
 - *Fluoride News Articles
 - *Bill Inserts
 - *MTU request - status
 - *Staffing-status
 - *FST Meeting – status
- **Invoices and Minutes – (9:30-9:45)**
- **Adjourn –(9:45)**

Next BWC Meeting – March 29, 2010 @ 6:30PM @ Town Hall