

**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 25, 2014
MEETING ROOM 014**

Present: Dave Keating, Brian Antonioli, Doug Valovcin

Present: Tom DiCecco, Dave Bernier

MEETING began at 6:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom DiCecco of Cedar Street appeared before the Board to receive updates on the progress on tests on water pressure in his house and the surrounding houses in his area. Mr. Valovcin reviewed the following results of tests that were conducted recently with the Cedar Street Booster Station:

Water flow to the homes increased three times as much with booster station OFF than with the booster station ON

Rules & Regulations require that homes over 310 feet elevation are required to have booster pumps in the home

BLACKBOARD notices that were sent to alert homeowners about the upcoming tests did not reach a large number of homeowners who do not subscribe to BLACKBOARD resulting in many calls to Water Department. Plans for next test will include hand-delivery of notices to all homes in the area (64 homes)

The next step in the test process is to conduct a month-long test to determine the best outcome for providing adequate water pressure to the homes in the area. Plans include the hand-delivery of test notification prior to the testing.

Mr. Valovcin noted that the shortage of staff (only four of the six Water Systems Operators positions are filled) means that the next test is recommended to be conducted in the Fall.

Mr. DiCecco discussed his problems with water pressure and booster pumps at his home. He told the Board that he has begun the permitting process to install a shallow well on his property. He had hoped that he would be allowed to hook up to the Town of Ashland water, but Mr. Valovcin informed him that Ashland is not going to allow that.

Mr. DiCecco and Mr. Bernier left at 6:25pm.

Estimates for a new booster station installation are approximately \$250,000.00 while booster pump plus installation for a home is approximately \$1500.00.

WELLS – STATUS

WELL #4

Well #4 Treatment Plant is now running òregular hoursö ó it had been running longer due to the cleaning at Well #5.

Contractors continue to work on the punch list at Well #4 Treatment Plant.

WELL #5 & WELL #8

Well #5 and Well #8 may be shut down during the daytime to provide some relief to those wells.

WELL #7

DeFelice Contractors have been notified that some of the trees and shrubs that they planted have not taken hold and must be replaced. Ali Parand of AP Parand & Associates, engineers for the project, has informed Mr. Valovcin that enough money has been òheld backö from the project that the Water Department would be able to use that money to replace them if DeFelice decides not to replace them.

GREEN STREET WATER MAIN BREAK

A water main break on Green Street this month has been repaired. Mr. Valovcin noted that since the repairs to water main on Green Street, the department has had no struggles to maintain the tank levels. He surmises that the leaking at Green Street may have been contributing to the puzzling recent dropping of tank levels. Because tank levels are now stable, he plans to rest Well #5 and Well #8 during daytime hours as noted in the previous section of these minutes.

REPORTS

The CCR (Consumer Confidence Report) is now on the town website and is available in paper form in locations in town including the Water Department Office at the Town Hall.

Mr. Valovcin is currently working on the Annual Statistical Report which is due in June.

**CONVERSION FROM HOLLISTON BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Mr. Keating has received information this week from Senator Spilka's office regarding the bill to dissolve the Board of Water Commissioners. The process is outlined below:

After three readings in the Senate, the Senate will vote on the bill

If approved, the bill returns to the House for another vote.

If approved at the House, the bill returns to the Senate for another vote

If approved, the bill goes to the Governor's desk for his signature.

If approved, the bill becomes law.

If there is approval at every step, her office estimates that the bill will go into effect around the third week in July 2014 and the Board of Water Commissioners will be dissolved.

CONTRACTS

Mr. Valovcin submitted his letter of resignation as Superintendent of the Holliston Water Department effective July 18, 2014. Mr. Keating accepted the letter regretfully and wished the best for Mr. Valovcin.

Mr. Valovcin presented a rough draft of what needs to be addressed prior to Mr. Valovcin's departure that relate to responsibilities of the Water Department. He emphasized the following items:

Authorized signature(s) needed to purchase chemicals that are regulated
by Homeland Security

Reports to Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Reports to Department of Public Health

Reports from Premier Labs

The Board of Water Commissioners' attempt to add stipends for two of the Water Systems Operators was denied this winter. Attempts to hire new employees to replace a retiring employee (in January 2014) and a new addition approved at the **May 2013** Town Meeting were also denied this past Fiscal Year. The remaining four Water Systems Operators do not have the authority to produce reports or sign for the chemicals.

The Board had instructed Mr. Valovcin to proceed with the purchase of a vehicle for the Water Department. Mr. Valovcin is expecting a price from a dealer this week.

MINUTES REVIEW

Mr. Keating made a motion: **“Motion to accept the minutes of June 11, 2014 as written”**

Mr. Antonioli seconded the motion.

Mr. Antonioli and Mr. Keating voted in favor of the motion.

STAFFING

One application for the position of Water Systems Operator has been received this week. Mr. Valovcin will remove the posting from the website because the Water Department has not been able to hire anyone for the two open positions.

DOCUMENTS

Complaint Log

Authorization Form of H. Perron & Son Locksmiths

Resignation Letter from Douglas Valovcin

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2012-2013

List of Items Needed to Be Addressed due to Resignation of Water Superintendent

2014-DEP ó Required Samples

Sample of Reports to Mass DEP ó Operation Reports

Sample of Reports to Department of Public Health

INVOICES AND CHANGE ORDERS

Invoices and change orders were signed at the meeting.

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

Mr. Antonioli seconded the motion.

Mr. Antonioli and Mr. Keating voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

Next BWC meeting – WEDNESDAY, July 9, 2014 at 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Keating

Clerk

Approved 7/9/14 as written