

MAY 17, 2010 HARVARD WATER COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

Rick Dickson, Bill Barton and Rich Nota met at 17:15 at the town highway barn. Agenda included Introduction of New Commissioner, Old Business, CDM Project and Current Projects.

Old Business:

- April 20th minutes reviewed, however Josh was not present for approval. Minutes approval moved to June meeting agenda.
- The Pond Rd. complaint and water service was discussed. Rich indicated that some water users have not paid their bills. Action – Rick to request Town counsel to address lack of payment action and need for a public hearing to update water collection rules. No Update.
- 2006 Source Protection Plan – No update. Bill provided location information on website.
- Mass highway- low sodium road salt applications for the Mass Ave/ Pond Rd area to reduce impact on TDS/chloride. Bill assigned action for follow. Rick to forward Mass Highway contact information to Bill.
- Water rate review –No Progress
- Emergency Plan – Comments and Bottled Water response. No progress.
- CDM Project – Review of report indicates a complex and expensive project. New commissioner provided report for review and discussion.
- Littleton Rd paving repair status. Complete.
- Replacement Pump / Well Inspection – Rich is soliciting price to repair pump.
- Storage Tank Fencing – Rich to obtain quotes for installation.

New Business:

- New Commissioner Bill Bartlett welcomed to his first meeting. He has met with Janet Vallente and been properly sworn in.
- BHP-4 Impact - Further review of Rick's review of this topic with DEP Barbara Kickham. Email that describes the conversation is attached. No additional submittal to DEP Water is necessary for BHP-4 installation and operation. Rick to forward Bill the referenced email.
- Rich noted that May meter readings are 80% complete and will be completed by his staff for this cycle due to unexpected death of Ken Harrod. He also indicated that we should look for another permanent reader through all channels in Harvard, including the Council on Aging and town website.
- Rich also indicated that he is working on the DEP E-Stat program for to obtain statistical data on line by June 10th deadline.
- Rich indicated that the annual Consumer Confidence Report is due on July 1st.

Bill motion to adjourn, Rick seconded, Meeting closed at 18:43.

Next Meeting scheduled for June 21st at 5pm – Town Highway Barn

MAY 17, 2010 HARVARD WATER COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

Excerpt from Email dated 4/29/10 to Bill Johnson and cc'd to Bruce Leicher, Richard Nota, Tim Bragan and Joshua Gould.

Bill,

After discussion with Barbara Kickham DEP Drinking Water Section Chief this afternoon regarding BHP-4 location and plans, she has informally accepted the stormwater plans as currently approved by DEP. I say informally because my offer to her to send her a formal notice to document this change of use within Zone 1 of the town wells was declined.

She did say that it is critical that the town stay focused on the oil/water separator operation and maintenance.

I will be documenting my email, phone calls and her verbal response to me in our next water commission meeting minutes to close out our open item.

For your information, DEP water department was not specifically included in the overall DEP internal review of your submittal.

Since the proximity of the town wells to the proposed changes was not identified on the drawings, DEP Drinking Water review was inadvertently missed.

Lack of formal DEP water section review follows a parallel path review glitch within the town of Harvard by not including the Water Commission in the public meeting notice.

FYI - Although I personally agreed that the change would tend to protect the Zone 1 area, the state requirement that no changes shall occur within this zone without DEP notice was never specifically answered in the Q&A provided to me. Without some assurance of compliance with state well water protection requirements, it was incumbent on the water commission to confirm the DEP Drinking Water Section regulatory position.

Thanks for all your information, support and dialogue.

I like your plans and we can now proceed without concern of future DEP drinking water section regulatory action regarding the stormwater collection system installation.

Regards,

Rick Dickson

MAY 17, 2010 HARVARD WATER COMMISSION MEETING NOTES

From: Bill Johnson [mailto:bill.johnson@harvardmass.net]
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 10:09 AM
To: Rick Dickson
Cc: Bruce Leicher; 'Richard Nota'; Tim Bragan; 'Joshua Gould'
Subject: Re: NOI Review

DEP has formally reviewed our project as part of the standard NOI process, and has approved our permit with no requested changes (Liz can get you a hard copy of this if you need it). This was a requirement that ConsComm had as well before they would sign off on the project (which they did on 4/15).

Since we will not be starting construction until mid-June, we will meet the 30-day advance notice requirement.

And of course, you already do an annual report.

So it appears that all the requirements are met, and we should proceed ahead per plan. Right?

/Bill

On 4/26/10 9:39 AM, "Rick Dickson" <rick@PowderHouseRealtyGroup.com> wrote:

Bill,

The water commissioners discussed BHP-4 at our last meeting and although we agree that the surface water will be controlled much better with the addition of the collection system, we are not the regulatory body that periodically inspects the water system for compliance to DEP rules and our license.

In our brief review of the DEP water regulations, there is a '30 day advance notice in writing' of any changes affecting our current well permit, including activity within the well protection zone.

There is also an annual requirement to report any changes to DEP within the scope of our water permit.

Both of these factors lead the commissioners to request positive assurance from DEP that the proposed storm water control measures are in keeping with our current license and ensure we are reporting those activities as required.

I will be talking to Rich Nota, our licensed water operator, about the water commissioner discussion. We appreciate your input on the design and comments from the engineering firm provided to conservation committee.

Regards,
Rick