



TOWN OF MEDWAY
WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

Commissioners

Cranston Rogers, Chair
Robert Wilson, Member
Leo O'Rourke, Member

Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2014
DPW Office
155 Village Street
Medway, MA

Present: Chan Rogers, Leo O'Rourke, Bob Wilson, Tom Holder, and the new Town Administrator Mike Boynton

The Water/Sewer Commission meeting was motioned to start at 5:00p.m. by Robert Wilson. Leo O'Rourke seconded.

MB – In attendance to meet the board. He states that he is used to dealing with an elected board and superintendent and director of the Water/Sewer Commission as in Medway. He further states that his job is to get factual data to the Water/Sewer Commission, but does not intend to reinvent the wheel. The Water/Sewer Commission welcomes him on board.

Approval of past meeting minutes

BW – Motioned to table the minutes until Chan Rogers and Leo O'Rourke can review them. Leo O'Rourke seconded.

Directors Report

Water accountability categorized as a crisis.

TH – Did not feel this is a crisis situation, but indeed an important situation to resolve.

LO – Asked why things are taking so long: Tom explains that we have been doing annual leak detection survey, replacing and calibrating meters.

MB – Stated there are a few realities to deal with, such as possible leaks in road, road deterioration, leaks underground, etc. Where do we plan to go from here?

TH – Had several suggestions. He indicated it was difficult to find leaks on plastic pipes. He suggested we use advanced technology. We tried valving off the town and didn't find anything extraordinary. Now we will valve off neighborhoods and meter these for a month. Could there be data integrity problems? We are looking at this but so far nothing has been found to indicate there is a problem with the data. Additionally, in the Fall, backflow protection devices are tested. All buildings will be checked to verify connections and confirm that are no illicit connections resulting in unmetered water.

BW – Inquired about system tampering fines.

TH – Indicated that if tampering occurs, we have already established a tampering policy.

MB – Believed there are multiple issues to be addressed.

250,000 gallons a day, in reality we are looking for 150,000 gallons a day. Part of the problem is that our historical date is not reliable. MB feels that there are multiple issues out there, this is not just one business.

On Friday, August 15th at 9:30a.m., the Selectmen will tour the Lab at the CRPDC.

LO – Felt we are not getting our money's worth from the CRPDC..

CR – Asked if we know how many residents are on sewer vs. septic. He states that the EPA just released their National Pollutant Detection and Elimination (NPDES) permit which states we are co-permittees. We feel we are members; not just co-permittees.

TH – Good news! Water main project has been going very well and is on budget.

LO – Wants a copy of the budget in order to review actual vs. budgeted. TH – Would like requests such as this to go through him and not Sarah.

LO – Asked if we had a GANT chart.

TH – No. Not for this project. Further states that Adams Street still needs house connections and road paving. The street should settle for the winter and be repaved curb-to-curb in the spring. Village Street is also off to a good start.

TH – Stated that as a result of the water main project we had a positive total coliform bacterial hit at the High School. This was not a public health risk, yet an indication of water degradation. The water was tested up and down stream today after the system was flushed. There was possible biofilm in the old previously dead ended pipe. The DEP was notified and there was no need for public outreach at this point. Part of the problem is that the schools pump to a tank and if no one is in the building the water just sits.

TH – Relayed that there were no abatements or complaints about the increase in sewer rates. Also, a report is coming from the consulting firm, Kleinfelder, regarding the CRPCD's numbers and possible increases.

TH – Made a motion to plan the next meeting for September 22, 2014 at 5:00p.m.

The Water/Sewer Commission meeting was motioned to close at 5:36p.m. Bob Wilson. Leo O'Rourke seconded, unanimous vote, 3-0.

Respectfully submitted by,

Judi LaPan
Program Administrator