

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners
Monday August 10, 2015
Bell Hill Water Treatment Facility
14 Bell Hill Road
North Brookfield, MA 01535

Present: **Tim Nason, John Thomasian, James Kularski, Richard Kennan & Kristen Thacker (Secretary of the meeting minutes)**

Guests: **Kerri Drabb- 44 St. John Street**

The meeting opened at 6:00pm.

Review and approve the minutes

Mr. Thomasian made a motion and Mr. Nason seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2015 Board of Water Commissioners meeting. The vote to accept these minutes was unanimous.

Kerri Drabb, 44 St. John Street North Brookfield, MA 01535

Ms. Drabb stated that her water bill, this time, is extremely high and she would like someone from the Water Department to come take a look at everything to see if there is something that may have caused her bill to be so high. Ms. Drabb stated that her bill for this billing cycle was over \$900.00 for her single family home with one (1) bathroom and three (3) adults living there. The Water Commissioners and Mr. Kennan all agreed with Ms. Drabb that this was a high bill. Mr. Kennan told Ms. Drabb that he would be willing to come over to her residence sometime this week to look at everything and be sure that nothing was going on in her home to cause such a high water bill. Mr. Kennan and Ms. Drabb made arrangements for Mr. Kennan to go to 44 St. John's Street at 9:00am the following day, August 11, 2015, so that Mr. Kennan can assess the situation.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Kennan stated that in the second (2nd) quarter the North Brookfield Water Department's THM & HAA samples were lost by Microbac therefore putting the North Brookfield Water Department in non- compliance with DEP. Mr. Kennan stated that this will have to be reported in the North Brookfield Water Department's CCR next year and this is considered a second (2nd) tier

violation. Mr. Kennan stated that he is currently reviewing the sampling schedule and if possible the North Brookfield Water Department will sample in first (1st) month of each quarter instead of the second (2nd) to allow the North Brookfield Water Department more wiggle room in reporting time to ensure ample time to take care of the samples that need to be taken care of in that quarter.

Mr. Kennan stated that he has been in contact with Revolusun regarding solar panels and is still weighing out all the options that may be available to the North Brookfield Water Department. Mr. Kennan stated that the Town of North Brookfield is also in discussion with solar company and it may be an option for the Water Department to explore this as an umbrella project with the rest of the town. Mr. Kennan stated that he is also looking into a grant or a loan option as well and he will keep the Commissioners up to date with the information that he receives.

Mr. Kennan stated that himself and Mr. Connolly have been opening trails and cutting back brush at dam with the new (used) ride-on mower the North Brookfield Water Department purchased last month. Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Highway Department will be coming to get the areas the North Brookfield Water Department can't do with the new mower. Mr. Kennan stated that he feels as though the mower was a good purchase as already has paid for itself in saving \$90.00 per hour service fee charge of brush services that the North Brookfield Water Department paid out at this time last year.

Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department had Hydra Tech come and repair the hydrant at 62 School Street. Mr. Kennan also stated that Hydra Tech was planning to fix the hydrant on the corner of Bell Street and Bell Road but they were unable to repair that hydrant. Hydra Tech informed Mr. Kennan that this particular hydrant will have to be dug to fix the issue. Mr. Kennan has been in contact with Mr. Ed Thibault and they are planning on digging the hydrant next week to begin the repair process.

Mr. Kennan stated that the Board of Selectmen's Administrative Assistant informed Mr. Kennan he should have Mrs. Thacker pursue her Water Operator's license before approval of the \$2.00 per hour increase in pay for having her said license. Mr. Kennan stated that he feels as though Mrs. Thacker's "Job Description" should change if and when she obtains her Operator's license.

New Business

Mr. Kularski stated that the North Brookfield Water Department's Board of Water Commissioners meeting needs to be changed for the month of September due to the Commissioners having a prior engagement. The Board of Water Commissioners all agreed to have the September 2015 meeting on Monday, September 21, 2015, the third Monday of the month, instead of the normal second (2nd) Monday of the month. This change will only be for the month of September 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm

Respectfully Submitted
Kristen Thacker-Administrative Assistant