

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners
Monday November 9, 2015
Bell Hill Water Treatment Facility
14 Bell Hill Road
North Brookfield, MA 01535**

Present: **John Thomasian, James Kularski, Richard Kennan and
Kristen Thacker, Administrative Assistant**

The meeting opened at 6:00pm.

Review and approve the minutes

Mr. Thomasian made a motion and Mr. Kularski seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2015 Board of Water Commissioners meeting. The vote to accept these minutes was unanimous.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department, along with Eddy Thibault, replaced a service (water) line at 51 Elm Street. Mr. Kennan stated that the break occurred during shutoffs.

Mr. Kennan stated that Underwater Solutions, the company hired by the North Brookfield Water Department to clean the storage tank and clear well have sent back their report of tank & clear well cleaning that was done in September 2015. Mr. Kennan stated that in their report everything looks good and there are no concerns.

Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department had a water main break occur on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at approximately four o'clock in the afternoon. The break occurred at 3 Birch Street. Mr. Kennan stated that Ed Thibault worked with North Brookfield Water Department in repairing this break. Mr. Kennan stated that this break turned out to be a much bigger job than usual. Mr. Kennan stated that the major problem was that a sewer manhole was directly over water main. Mr. Kennan stated that Mr. Thibault had to remove the sewer manhole along with sewer services. Mr. Kennan stated that in this particular area of town there is a large amount of ledge (to remove) therefore Mr. Thibault needed to bring in second backhoe that was equipped with jackhammer. Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department had to replace a section of 6 inch cast iron pipe that had split. After replacing the said pipe the North Brookfield Water Department had to tie the sewer back in, install manhole back in place, compact the street, pave street with base asphalt and flush the hydrant(s). Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department will apply the finish coat the week of November 16, 2015 (approximately). Mr. Kennan stated that this was a very big job; the North Brookfield Water Department got done with this repair at twelve o'clock noon the next day.

Mr. Kennan stated he wanted to bring the Board of Water Commissioners up to speed on the plant shutdown issue that has been happening at the treatment plant. Mr. Kennan stated that Brian Ford from LCS came to the North Brookfield Water Department to hook into the Water Department's Scada (operating) system. Mr. Kennan stated that Mr. Ford must come physically to plant to locate certain faults within the system. Mr. Kennan stated that once the plant shutdown Brian was able to locate trouble. Mr. Ford found that the VFD # 2 at the raw water pump station had a high temperature fault that was caused by a fan that had burnout in the panel. Mr. Kennan stated that Troy Brown, from Brown Electric, will be at the raw water pump station tomorrow to install new fan. Mr. Kennan also stated that he and Mr. Brown have worked out a plan if/when there is a future failure. Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department has bought a spare fan to have on site as occurrence again is highly probable.

Mr. Kennan stated that as of today, the North Brookfield Water Department still has no new truck and it has been eight (8) weeks the North Brookfield Water Department has been without their second truck. Mr. Kennan stated that this has been very difficult at best. Within this time frame the Water Department has had to work with one (1) truck for three (3) breaks, the flushing of hydrants on top of all the everyday routines and schedules the Water Department must follow. Mr. Kennan stated that working with MHQ has not been an easy task and Mr. Kennan does not think he will go back to this company for/with any future business.

Mr. Kennan stated that Carl Soper from Water & Waste Pipe and Testing Inc. came to the North Brookfield Water Department to do leak detection throughout the town. Mr. Soper's found that there were a couple small leaks. Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield Water Department is planning on looking into the leaks as soon as possible.

Mr. Kennan stated that the North Brookfield water Department is considering switching lab companies for the monthly sample tests that the Water Department is required to perform by the DEP. Mr. Kennan stated that over the past few months the current company has been experiencing some issues in regards to the samples. Mr. Kennan stated that Net Lab is a testing company that offers the same services as Microbac at a lesser rate and services that are part of the pricing Vs. Microbac whom charges the Water Department an extra charge.

New Business

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 6:37pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristen Thacker-Administrative Assistant

