

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners
Monday, March 11, 2019
Bell Hill Water Treatment Facility
14 Bell Hill Road
North Brookfield, MA 01535

Present: **Jim Kularski, Tim Nason, Shiela LeBlanc, Rich Kennan and Administrative Assistant, Kelly Valeri**

Absent: **None**

The meeting opened @ 6:00 PM

Review and approve the minutes

Mr. Nason made a motion and Ms. LeBlanc seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the February 11, 2019 Board of Water Commissioners meeting. The vote to accept these minutes was unanimous.

Abatement Request

- **14 Park Street** - An abatement request was submitted by Gary and Elizabeth Fuller of 14 Park Street. Mr. Fuller attended the meeting and explained to the Board that he was unaware of his garden hose leaking. He left it on in the summer to water plants around his deck and didn't realize there was water leaking from it which resulted in his unusually high water bill this billing cycle. The water department did go back to the Fuller residence and determined the water usage is back to the normal usage and there is no issue with the meter. An average of his past 5 year usage and an average of the past 5 year water rates were used to determine the abatement amount. After a brief discussion, Mrs. LeBlanc made a motion to abate back to \$475. Mr. Nason seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

FY2020 Budget

- The BOWC reviewed the revised FY 2020 Budget due to a few changes made after last month's recommendation by the Board. All three commissioners reviewed and discussed the revised Budget proposal. Mrs. LeBlanc made a motion to send the proposed FY2020 Budget as is, and Mr. Nason seconded the motion. The vote to accept the proposed FY 2020 Budget was unanimous.

Superintendent Report

- **New Butterfly Assembly** – A new butterfly assembly was ordered from Flow Elements for the recycle pump. The assembly was installed by our water department employees. It was cheaper to buy the whole new assembly for the pump then to piece it out.
- **Employee Review** – Mr. Kennan has given Robbie Peterson his 6 month review. Rob is doing excellent work here at the Water department. He is a great asset to the water department.
- **Mendela Property**- Mr. Kennan is moving forward trying to implement watershed bylaws by a town vote. After speaking with the BOS office, the water department has the approval to contact Town Counsel regarding this matter and the proper process to follow.
- **May Town Meeting**- There will be a few articles for the Special town meeting in May. The RWPS needs building repairs and the System Improvement account is in the red due to a high number of breaks so far this year. A new floor will also be needed at the Water treatment plant as the almost 20 year old tiles are starting to lift. All of the monies requested will be taken from the retained earnings account and will not cost the water users anything.

New Business

- **Review Town Articles** – Mr. Kennan had copies of the articles discussed earlier for the commissioners to review. Again, he explained the monies for the articles would be at no cost to the water users.
- **Solitude Contract** – A new contract from Solitude for pond treatment was reviewed. Mr. Kularski made a motion to send the contract for signatures to the BOS. Mr. Nason seconded. The vote to accept was unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Valeri
Administrative Assistant