



Town of Wilbraham

Board of Water Commissioners
240 Springfield Street
Wilbraham, Massachusetts 01095

Wilbraham Board of Water Commissioners

Minutes of Meeting
July 9, 2020

Present by phone: Chairman, James Dunbar; Commissioner Rik Alvarez; Commissioner Douglas Hutcheson; Vinnie Pafumi, Water Superintendent, and Annette Grasso, Engineering Clerk.

Physically Present: Tonya L. Basch, DPW Director and Donna E. Daviau – Administrative Assistant.

This meeting is conducted in compliance with Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c 30A §20 (attached) signed March 12, 2020.

Announcement Per MGL c.36(a), 2020

The DPW director stated the following: In accordance with Mass. General Law Chapter 30(a), section 20, I announce that this meeting of the Wilbraham Board of Water Commissioners is being recorded by the Engineering/DPW Office; and asked if there is anyone present who is also recording this meeting. No one was recording and the minutes reflect that one indicated that they are recording this meeting.

The DPW Director announced that this meeting is conducted in Compliance with Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, §20 signed March 12, 2020. Most participants of this meeting are attending electronically.

MINUTES:

Motion was made and unanimously voted to accept Minutes of the June 11, 2020 meeting.

BUDGET:

It was reported that the water department did not spend its entire budget. Don't believe there will be a deficit.

Demand Water Bills. Were sent out on June 10, 2020 and are due the 24th of June, 2020. The outstanding balance for Water/Sewer Bills is not available, due to end of Fiscal Year and not

being able to post anything received after June 30, 2020. The Board requested that this balance be available for the next meeting.

MWRA:

The Daily Flows for the Town of Wilbraham are way up compared to the last three (3) years. We are pumping 2.3 million gallons per day during the month of June.

Sue Bunnell reached out to Tonya, relative to water conservation. Sue would like the Board's input as to water conservation. There are no restrictions for use of water. The Board of Water Commissioners and the Water Department takes instruction from the MWRA. There are no restrictions at this time. Quabbin is at full capacity.

WATER DEPARTMENT BUSINESS:

Chairman Dunbar thanked Tom Pilarcik for his many years of service on the Board of Water Commissioners.

Chairman Dunbar also welcomed our new Board Member Doug Hutcheson.

There are pressure issues in Town. More use is more volume.

A few shutoff notices were served i.e. The Gardens; Cumberland Farms; the trailer park in Ludlow. More shut off notices will be served.

Tonya to draft a press release educating residents relative to water conservation, ascending rates, expect higher bills; Do not water lawn during peak times as you may experience low water pressure.

Hydro vac and the gas company. The Town wants the gas company to use the hydro vac when working near the water mains. We are verbally telling them this now. This should be put in the Rules and Regulations. What the hydro vac does is a tanker truck sprays on water and then sucks out all the water and dirt. This is a much safer process.

Hardships:

Motion was made and unanimously voted to waive late fees and interest to 676 Stony Hill Rd., 30 Manchonis Rd., and 23 Main Street. Motion was made and unanimously voted that the late fees and interest stand at 34 & 37 & 43 Brainard Rd., 16 Tracy Dr., 26 Mill Brook Dr., and 9 Mountain View Rd.

Update Glenn Drive. Will be working on the water main next week. Will be following all COVID protocols.

Paving is going on and the Water Department is adjusting risers.

Water Entry Fee. It currently is \$1,000.00 for residential, commercial is \$1,250.00. Propose raising rates for entry fees and other various fees. Donna and Vinnie to work on other communities' rates.

We will be replacing recently retired employee. We will be hiring as a Heavy Equipment Operator. Whereby there will be less licensing. He will perform work that needs a CDL and he will be a laborer.

Other Business:

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for August 6, 2020 at 8:45a.m.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 9:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna E. Daviau
Administrative Assistant