



Town of Wilbraham

Board of Water Commissioners
240 Springfield Street
Wilbraham, Massachusetts 01095

Wilbraham Board of Water Commissioners

Minutes of Meeting
August 19, 2021

Physically Present: Chairman James Dunbar, Commissioner Douglas Hutcheson, Commissioner Rik Alvarez and Water Foreman, Lionel Duquette; Tonya Basch, DPW Director, Donna Daviau, Administrative.

CALLED MEETING TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 8:46 a.m.

MINUTES:

*Motion was made and unanimously voted to accept the Minutes of the July 15, 2021 meeting.

BUDGET: Nothing

MWRA:

WATER DEPARTMENT BUSINESS:

Daily Flows: We are having a wet summer. Flows are down. There is a big difference from last year. Last year we were a 2.115 (NGD) and this year we are at 1.137 (MGD).

Outstanding Balance on the May 2021 billing cycle is \$42,487.48, as of August 18, 2021. This does not include Friendly's bankruptcy.

Vero of 9 Maple Street has not paid their November or May bills. The total for their two billing cycles is \$50,597.75, not including fees and interest. Donna Daviau has been in contact with the local Vero and the headquarters on numerous occasions, beginning on July 19, 2021 and we still have not received payment. Motion was made and unanimously voted to send a certified shut off letter to the local and the headquarters. Donna Daviau to prepare letter and forward to the Chairman for approval.

Fire Services. Vero is not being billed for a fire service. Lionel indicated that some of the services are actually metered. When the backflow testing occurs, the water department should

verify that there is a fire service on the premises and if it is metered or not. If we are not billing for the fire service line, a new account must be set up.

The Fire flow entry fee must be evaluated for new construction. We must also take a look of how it affects our system. Subdivision regulations relate to water regulations. We are working with ZBA. We will need to know how much water does the subdivision need. This will need to be present the water department with a plan of what they will need for flow pressure. This will be put in our comments and this should also be put in the Water Rules and Regulations.

The Hydraulic Analysis will help figure out what we can handle.

The Town, not the MWRA puts on water restrictions.

The Water Superintendent, Vinnie Pafumi contacted the MWRA about increasing the amount of water we may take. If the capacity isn't there, we may take Covid money and use it to expand our water system. We will have to draft correspondence to the Board of Selectman for use of this money. We should think about improvements. Once we get the Hydraulic Analysis done, we will be able to look into what can be done. As to the existing AC pipes, we will need help from consultants improving our water mains. We do leak detection in house. We also, may want to add an additional water tank and if we have the capabilities of filling it.

Many new projects happening in town. Three or four shops proposed on Boston Road; the next phase of Cedar Ridge; mini Micro Brewery; the academy and storage units. We will be requesting and Engineer's report as to the amount of flow they will need.

In the Rules and Regulations, we need more strict backflow protection. We might also want to charge for cross connection surveys.

The Board will review and make comments for next meeting on the Tighe & Bond Water Regulations proposal, along with Donna Daviau's comments.

Recuperate overtime expenses to be put in Rules and Regulations. This matter will be placed on the Agenda for next meeting.

Other Business:

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2021 at 8:45a.m.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna E. Daviau
Administrative Assistant.