

Wellfleet Board of Water Commissioners
Wednesday April 3, 2019
Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room 6PM
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Jim Hood, Chair; Curt Felix, Thomas Flynn, Neil Gadwa, Catharie Nass

Others Present: Rebekah Eldridge, Committee Secretary

Chair called to order 6:00PM

Coles Neck (Gristmill Way) Wells

- Problems Identified by Whitewater
- Then board discussed the issues Roy found with the wells. Roy feels the control at well number 1 needs to be replaced but an electrician pump company needs to come in and look at it, the chair informed the group that he authorized Roy from Whitewater to go ahead and have someone come out and look at well 1.
- Well 3, is the newest well. This pump only runs for a short period of time and then fails, or Roy feels something in the computer causes it to lock out and may need to be replaced.

65 Cahoon Hollow Road

- Request for additional Curb Stop
- The board discussed putting in a curb stop. Eldridge reported that the owner stated he would be paying the \$6,000 connection fee up front and not do the deferred payment plan. Chair Hood stated that the owner would have to pay for the curb stop as well as the connection fee. Chair Hood stated he would discuss this further with Roy from Whitewater more in depth tomorrow to see his thoughts.
- Felix asked the board what the \$6,000 covers, the board decided it should go towards the curb stop installation. The board will work with the owner getting this curb stop installed. Chair Hood will discuss this with Roy and get an estimate from Robert B Our.

150 School Street (Map #15, Parcel #27)

- Request to split service to 150A School Street
- No new update on this property or splitting the water.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

- Funding Request for Water Resources Director Position
Felix updated and discussed with the board the new wording in the article, the wording in the article is now for a consulting position instead of a full-time position. The board agreed this was a good compromise for both waste water and board of water commissioners.

Flynn motioned to accept and approve the changes for Town Meeting Article 36, Felix seconded the motion; motion carried 5-0-0

- Lawrence Road Housing Proposals and Impact of Coles Neck Water Main, Chair Hood explained to the board that he spoke with Russ Tierney from Whitewater, as he had not heard back from Paul Millet about whether DEP would need to weigh in on this project. Tierney felt DEP would need to due to the size of the project. Flynn asked if the Selectboard had any feedback on the water commissioners' stipulations for this property. Felix said there were no issues or concerns from the Selectboard.

Status of Contract with Pennichuck

- Billing – Chair Hood was unable to get a copy of the contract from TA Dan Hoort. Eldridge gave an update to the board regarding the transfer of data.
- Outstanding Water Bills – Eldridge explained to the board that she went through the files and data of the current water system and sent out outstanding balances and has received almost \$10,000 from outstanding balances. There is one water customer who has a large outstanding balance of \$2,812.16 and was asking the board if he could be put on a payment plan to pay this debt off. Along with his current usage. Chair Hood directed Eldridge to check with TA Hoort if this would be possible and okay. They decided to break this large sum up into a year of payments. Each month the bill will be \$234.00 to have the balance paid in a year.
- Eldridge gave an update on Ryder Court Road, Thor Baum would like to run water to his property and to his neighbors, with the board's permission. The board discussed if they were able to allow him to install the water system. Baum would have to put in the pipe, the town would own the pipe and the stop. There would be no connection fee as the cost would be incurred by the owner. Felix stated at this time they would have to write up a contract and discuss options with The Town Administrator and Town Counsel. The same level of coverage and assurances will be needed as other town contractors. The board asked Eldridge to invite Thor to come in and meet with them at their next meeting to go over exactly what he is looking to do.
- Eldridge reported that there are three new water applications into the water office with down payments made. A few are water lien's that need the board's signatures.

Specifics for Thor:

- The pipe needs to meet the specifications and depth of the water system
- Whitewater needs to inspect and review all plans
- He would be financially responsible for pipe that the water system would own and any easements for all the properties and he would need to do all the permitting to get the easements.

The board talked about maybe bringing water to the Flying Fish restaurant from Ryder Court.

Felix gave an update on water rates and how to improve the system. He stated there is a large sum of people that are hooked onto the water but aren't using it. He talked about how much revenue comes from commercial verses residential. The revenue is 50/50. He discussed changes usage rates for commercial and residential. He told the board that there are many customers of water that have paid to connect but aren't using the water at this point. Discussion on adjusting service fees and water usage rates.

Follow Up re Taping BWC Meetings

The board discussed taping options. They decided that they would tape certain meetings that were important to reach the public and wouldn't have any sensitive and personal information.

Nass motioned to have the meetings taped when there is no confidential information or information that could pertain to negotiations and strategy. They will inform Mia when meetings need to be taped with a two-week advanced notice.

Hood seconded the motion, carried 5-0-0

Approval of Minutes

- March 12, 2019 -

Felix moved to approve the minutes, Nass seconded the motion; Carried 5-0-0

New Business