

**Wellfleet Board of Water Commissioners**  
**Virtual Zoom Meeting**  
**March 31, 2020, 6:00PM**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Jim Hood, Chair; Tom Flynn, Curt Felix, Catharie Nass

**Members Absent:** Neil Gadwa

**Others Present:** Rebekah Eldridge, Committee Secretary; Russ Tierney, Whitewater Representative; Dwight Esty, Historical Society; Erick Winslow, Historical Society

Chair Hood called the meeting to order at 6:05pm

**Wellfleet Historical Society**

- Dwight represented for the historical society asking for the boards guidance on how to go about doing the fire pressure system into the building. Chair Hood stated that they would need to get a bid and they recommended Robert B Our as they have a lot of experience with the town of Wellfleet's water system. Chair Hood stated that he spoke with the building inspector of Wellfleet and there are plans for the building and after going over them they found there needs to be a six-inch main to go into the building. Chair Hood also expressed that the fire chief was made aware of the recommendation. Chair asked that the historical society let the board know when they work will be done, chair asked for them to let the board know the sooner the better in case they need to close Main St. Tierney expressed that Robert Our should be able to do a live tap and feels the street wouldn't need to be closed but he would check with Our to make sure.
- Winslow asked about cost for this project. Chair Hood said the board would have to discuss the cost at a later meeting, the building itself already has access to town water but is not currently connected. Chair Hood asked them to confirm with the building inspector if the current maps are up to date and acceptable.
- The continued to discuss details on hooking up to water for just the fire suppression system.

**Wellfleet Recycling Committee**

- There was no one from the recycling committee on the zoom call so this was moved to the next meeting. Eldridge explained the committee has a warrant on the town meeting article to stop the use of single use plastic bottles. The board tabled this until the next meeting.

### Service Fees for Customers

- The board discussed stopping the bi-annual payments to the customers that aren't physically on the water system but are paying the connection fees.
- Eldridge gave the update that there are 57 customers paying the service fees. Nass expressed that this would be a revenue loss for the water budget.
- As of right now the board will table this discussion

### Scada System and Mueller Meters

- Tierney gave an update to the board about updating the current meters. He stated that he had a conversation with Mueller and was upset with their response on having to update the for the new meters. He explained that Mueller wasn't willing to work with him in negotiating a lower price, and he was upset with their response given that Wellfleet is on a fixed budget and have only had the meters for almost ten years. He went on to give the board another option; he would recommend that the board go with the meter system called Neptune. These meters are also read by Pennichuck so the system would be easier to work with. Tierney offered that Whitewater buy the new meters outright for Wellfleet and work out a payment plan over five to ten years. Tierney explained that he was able to get decent pricing for the board to upgrade the meters, that Whitewater would use equipment that they use for Eastham so Wellfleet wouldn't have to buy a full system. Tierney explained that surrounding towns use Neptune and Pennichuck and enjoy how easy it is to use. Chair Hood stated he should put a request for bids out and get at least three bids so they can decide on which is best for the system.
- Chair Hood asked Eldridge the next time she was in the office to please send the board the contract with Mueller so they can look over what was agreed upon.
- Felix asked if it would be possible to install the meters over a period. Tierney stated it could be done that way Tierney explained he will get a price quote for the meters and get back to the board. He will look for grants to help with this process as well.
- Tierney discussed with the board his discussion with Butch Neylon. Tierney feels that Coles Neck isn't the place to update but feels the boy scout camp well is the nest place to spend the money for an upgrade. He explained that this well is a more important well and does more of the work. Tierney is in discussion with DEP (Department of Environmental Partners) to have the Coles Neck Well as an emergency back up well. He explained to the board that the well isn't used often and would like to have it as a backup well, this would be the town's secondary water source.
- The board continued to discuss both wells and would like to apply for a Mass Works grant once it becomes available for both sites. Tierney expressed if DEP is looking for upgrades to wells, he would rather the boy scout camp well be updated.
- Chair Hood discussed having to take this back to the Town Administrator to discuss funds available in the water budget
- **Felix moved to recommend the authorization to release of funding for the most recent proposal from Cape Water Resources, Hood seconded, motion carried 4-0**

**Lawrence Road Electric Bill**

- Eldridge explained to the board that she spoke with Mike Nee from white water who checked out the site and said there are space heaters at the site to prevent the pipes from freezing which would cause the electric bill to be high.

**Minutes**

- February 18, 2020 – postponed to the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting

**Topics for future meetings**

- Eldridge will re-invite the recycling committee
- Invite Russ Tierney to continue discussion on meters and Scada system

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm