



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Southwick

454 COLLEGE HIGHWAY SOUTHWICK, MA 01077

Department of Public Works- Water Division

Telephone (413) 569-6772 Fax (413) 569-5001

Water Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Southwick Town Hall- Land Use Hearing Room - IN PERSON ATTENDANCE ONLY

Thursday January 6th, 2022 at 6:00 pm

Members in Attendance: Dave Meczywor, Acting Chairman
John Cain, Commissioner

Others Present: Randy Brown, DPW Director
Keven Soper, Water Foreman
Christie Myette, DPW Office Manager

Absent: Edward Johnson, Chairman

Guest: None

The meeting was recorded.

The meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was called to order at 6:00pm.

Public Comments: NONE

Review of the October 21st, 2021 Water Commissioners Meeting Minutes.

A MOTION was made by John Cain to accept the October 21st 2021 Water Commissioners Meeting Minutes. This was seconded by Dave Meczywor. MOTION PASSED

Review of the December 9th, 2021 Water Commissioners Meeting Minutes.

These minutes were tabled until next meeting due to John Cain not being present for this meeting.

The Commitment was signed for December.

Four Elderly Rate Applications were presented to the Water Commissioners. The applicants meet all the necessary requirements.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Water bills for the 4/1 to 10/1 billing period were due 11/16. 360 customers are delinquent totaling (both water and sewer) \$110,648.61. Demand bills were issued 12/7 and were due 12/21.

2. The contract for the transmission main improvements project to upgrade the SWSC transmission main was awarded to Morais Concrete Service. Work is expected to start in spring and be completed by June 1st.
3. On 1/5, MassDEP submitted a letter indicating that the 4th Quarter haloacetic acids (HAA5) samples at the Jarry Drive Pump Station resulted in Operational Evaluation Level (OEL) of 63 micrograms/liter which exceeds maximum of 60 micrograms/liter. An *Operational Evaluation Reporting Form* will be prepared indicating the source of the exceedance originating from Springfield Water & Sewer's system. The report is due to MassDEP by 3/29.
4. MassDEP and Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) initiated the Water Needs Forecast which is required for the Town's Water Withdrawal Permit renewal.
5. The owner of 55 Sam West Road has not yet performed the remedies necessary to re-establish the water service which included 1) replace the water service from the curb stop, 2) remove the pipe where the meter should be located and provide a proper setup for a new meter, 3) install a backflow device on the threaded hose bib, and 4) pay for a new meter. After these items are complete, the new meter will be installed by the Water Department.
6. Emil Pustea of Sigma Water Systems continues to perform inspections at backflow devices.

OLD BUSINESS

WATER MORATORIUM

This is a follow up from the last few meetings. A graph of the monthly water usage from 2016 to December 2021 was provided to the Commissioners. This was reviewed and was in line with historical usage. This will continue to be reviewed until the transmission main improvements are completed.

ARPA FUNDS

There is nothing to report at this point. The second allotment of ARPA money, about \$1.3 million has not been distributed to the Town. Once that money comes in a discussion with the Select Board can occur about potential projects.

NEW BUSINESS

FY2023 BUDGET

As of yet the Water Department budget sheets have not yet been distributed. Randy Brown provided last year's budget for the board to review. This year the Select Board and Finance Committee is asking for a level funded, 5% decrease and a requested amount budget. Items that were discussed to include in the budget is the North Longyard Pump Station, Upgrade Well #1 and redundant transmission main to the tank. A new well at the North Pond Property was discussed and possibly setting funds aside for the survey or permitting. The budget will be discussed further at the next meeting.

MEETING FORMAT DISCUSSION

At the last meeting Doug Moglin came to the meeting asking for the Board to reconsider moving to a hybrid meeting format. The Commissioners present briefly discussed and decided to take a vote.

*A **MOTION** was made by John Cain to move to a hybrid meeting format for future meetings. This was seconded by Dave Meczywor. **MOTION PASSED.***

FIRE LINE CONNECTION FEES

John Cain brought up that currently there are no fees in place for water testing and inspections for new water lines. At this time we only charge for domestic hookups and that fee includes the repeat inspections and testing. This will be researched and discussed at the next meeting.

*John Cain made a **MOTION TO ADJOURN** this was seconded by Dave Meczywor the meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm.*

MOTION PASSED

Respectfully Submitted By,

Christie Myette
DPW Office Manager

Ed Johnson, Chairman

David Meczywor

John Cain