



*Town of Walpole
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Board of Sewer and Water Commissioners*

*John Hasenjaeger, Chair
Pradeep Mishra, Clerk
William Abbott, Member
Patrick Fasanello, Member
Jeffrey Fisher, Member*

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 12, 2024

6:30 P.M.

E.J. Delaney Treatment Plant

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, February 12, 2024 at the E.J. Delaney Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington Street. The meeting is called to order by Board Chair, John Hasenjaeger at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was filmed and will be available on Walpole Media's YouTube Channel.

Present at the Meeting

Sewer and Water Commissioners:

John Hasenjaeger, Patrick Fasanello, William Abbott, Pradeep Mishra and Jeffrey Fisher

Other Participants:

Rick Mattson, Director of Public Works, Scott Gustafson, Sewer and Water Superintendent

Minutes: January 22, 2024

Motion made by Mr. Abbott and **Seconded** by Mr. Fasanello to approve the minutes of January 22, 2024.

Vote 4-0-1 (YES VOTE)

Roll call John Hasenjaeger-Yes, Patrick Fasanello-Yes, William Abbott-Yes, Pradeep Mishra Yes, Jeffrey Fisher-Abstain

Superintendents Status Report:

Mr. Gustafson reports that on January 24th, we had a water leak on Renmar Road. It was a circle crack on the 8" water main. MTU Report: MTU's & meters are being replaced as available. Mr. Gustafson continues the pilot program meters are being installed with six complete to date. Training will take place this Wednesday for the Beacon software to connect them to accounts and receive readings. Mr. Fisher asked if we could have a demo at the next meeting. Mr. Gustafson agreed. He notes that we met with the surveyor last week to go over the survey project at Jarvis Farm. Mr. Gustafson continues that Morningside Drive is currently running on bypass, and is expected to return to service on 2-15-24. He notes that we have collected the second set of UCMR5 samples, which completes this round of sampling. He continues 29 of those components out of 30 are PFAS compounds. He comments that routine task and maintenance continue to be performed.

Correspondence:

1. Jim Johnson Letter regarding Mylod Street MWRA Connection

Mr. Hasenjaeger comments that there was a meeting structured by the DPW Director, Rick Mattson at Town Hall. Mr. Hasenjaeger notes that he attended and there was probably 10 people there. Bill Abbott was there as well. Mr. Hasenjaeger continues that they discussed the nuances of the Mylod

soccer field to town property on Mylod Street and our request for the site location for the pumping station for the MWRA connection. The Town Administrator, Jim Johnson sent a report to the Selectman and they moved the meeting with Sewer and Water to discuss this on February 27th so on that date we might have a meeting so we can all attend to have all your questions answered. The meeting will be posted so we are all eligible to attend. Mr. Hasenjaeger continues that Mr. Johnson has listed two options, options 1 & 2 which are the ones we discussed before. He continues one is on an undeveloped triangle parcel and the other is an existing parcel where there is youth soccer practice fields, fields and some parking. Mr. Hasenjaeger notes that I have the impression from the town attorneys that it is easier from their point of view to go on the triangle undeveloped parcel because of the permissions that are required on the deed restrictions on the existing soccer field. There would be an opportunity for us to acquire another piece of land as well. There are a couple of excess lots on Mylod Street and some land that is owned by the Residents Association of Toll Brothers Project.

2. FY25 Sewer and Water Budgets

Mr. Hasenjaeger states that on March 7th, the Finance Committee will be discussing these proposals from the Town. He continues that if we have any comments, we want to make those comments before the meeting. Mr. Abbott notes there is going to be three articles that are needed for the budget. Mr. Abbott continues that one is in case we run short on this fiscal year and then there are the other two, one for the water for the next fiscal year and one for the sewer for the next fiscal year. Mr. Hasenjaeger comments these articles are facilitating the process and it is going to be taken up at the Town Meeting and if we do not need it, Sewer and Water will present their vote as No Action.

Motion made by Mr. Mishra and **Seconded** by Mr. Fisher to approve the three articles.

Vote 5-0-0 (YES VOTE)

Roll call John Hasenjaeger-Yes, Patrick Fasanello-Yes, William Abbott-Yes, Pradeep Mishra Yes, Jeffrey Fisher-Yes

3. Jarvis Farm – Cabin Surplus

Mr. Fasanello asks why were these specific cabins picked out to be surplus and what does surplus mean. Mr. Fisher states that many of these cabins are falling apart, sills are rotted, holes in the wall, old ceiling roofs and they are just not needed. Mr. Fisher continues that they need the cabins that they can use that are relatively close to the field. Mr. Hasenjaeger comments that they would like to hear from Brendan Croak, the Recreation Director.

Motion made by Mr. Fisher and **Seconded** by Mr. Abbott to declare the cabins listed in the memo Correspondence 3, we declare them surplus.

Vote 2-2-1 (NO VOTE)

Roll call John Hasenjaeger-No, Patrick Fasanello-No, William Abbott-Yes, Pradeep Mishra-Abstain, Jeffrey Fisher-Yes

4. Low Income Assistance – Water/Sewer

Mr. Hasenjaeger reads a memo from the Finance Director, Jodi Cuneo. Jodi is forwarding communication from Lisa Sinkus. Mr. Hasenjaeger continues that this memo notes that the final payment for self-help for assistance with water/sewer bills has been received. He notes that eighty residents qualified for \$22,732. These eighty residents received \$200 as a credit on their

bill. Mr. Fasanello would like to know how these residents become qualified. Mr. Gustafson said that he would find out.

5. Memo dated 02-02-24 from Bill Abbott re: Data for the Water Pumped since 2017 by Month

Mr. Abbott notes that if you look at Fiscal Year 24, four were below and three were slightly above. He comments that if things continue, it may be one of those years where half are lower than the historical average. Mr. Abbott states it looks like it may be one of those years where you have a good mix, which is good.

6. Memo dated 02-07-24 from Bill Abbott re: Breakdown of FY24 Revenue Numbers

Mr. Mishra comments that according to this report the numbers are 4.2 million in water so far and 3.6 million in sewer so far. Mr. Mishra adds it looks fine to me.

4. Low Income Assistance – Water/Sewer (Continued from Earlier)

Mr. Fisher comments that he found the qualification guidelines for the self-help program. He continues that it is based on household size and annual income. Mr. Mishra asks Mr. Gustafson if he could find out how this program is funded.

Old Business

1. MWRA Water Connection

Mr. Hasenjaeger states that we did review this email from Mr. Johnson. He continues that the other members who were not at the meeting, Mr. Abbott and Mr. Fasanello had brought articles about other communities pushing to get their water from the MWRA program. He continues that we want to make sure that the MWRA is aware that Walpole is working on this and that we have been trying to get on the radar with them for quite some time. Mr. Hasenjaeger continues that in the meeting, we talked about what we could have Weston & Sampson do next so that we are just not waiting around for a site. He notes that a W&S representative has been authorized to coordinate the survey of the property on Mylod Street. He comments that at least the survey would be done in the meantime while we are trying to get this decision from the Board of Selectman.

2. Jarvis Farm

3. Meter to Cash Report

Mr. Mishra comments that the status has been given to us during the pilot program discussion.

Motion made by Mr. Hasenjaeger **Moved** by Mr. Fasanello **Seconded** by Mr. Mishra to adjourn at 7:33p.m.

Vote 5-0-0

Roll call John Hasenjaeger-Yes, Patrick Fasanello-Yes, William Abbott –Yes, Pradeep Mishra-Yes, Jeffrey Fisher-Yes

DATE MINUTES ACCEPTED: February 26, 2024