



Board of Sewer and Water Commissioners

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

Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 25, 2022

6:30 P.M.

**Delaney Water Treatment Plant
1303 Washington Street**

This meeting was taped and will be available on Walpole Media's YouTube Channel

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, July 25, 2022 at Delaney Water Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington Street. The meeting is called to order by Board Chair John Hasenjaeger at 6:30 p.m.

Present at the Meeting:

Sewer and Water Commissioners:

John Hasenjaeger, William Abbott, Pradeep Mishra and Jeffrey Fisher

Other Participants:

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

Abatelements: (to be delivered for vote)

Motion made by Mr. Abbott ***Seconded by*** Mr. Hasenjaeger to approve the abatements.

Vote 4-0-0 (YES Vote)

Roll Call Vote John Hasenjaeger-Yes, William Abbott-Yes, Pradeep Mishra, Yes, Jeffrey Fisher, Yes

Superintendents Status Report:

Mr. Gustafson reports on the fourth of the July there was a minor leak on **Milar street**. On the same day, there was a hydrant that was hit on Johnson Drive. This morning, July 25, **MBR** hit the water main on Main Street. Isolated for repairs, and there was only one resident who was effected who is on a bypass. **MBR** will be fixing this tomorrow. The generators for Old Post Road and Washington #6 have been delayed until the second week of September. Eleanore Road Sewer Station Rehab is scheduled for August 1st, should be completed September 9th. We received another application for the Board of Sewer & Water Secretary position. In response to question posed at the previous meeting in regards to monthly billing costs for paper vs. electronic and how many use each one, Mr. Gustafson recommends inviting either Lisa or Jodi, or both, to speak to the board about this. Mr. Gustafson also reached out to vendors in regards to applications like *Dropcountr*, and they have offered to do a 30-60 minute Zoom presentation if the Board would like.

Policy Review:

1. Sewer Abatement Consideration Request dated 7/6/22 from Resident – 21 Anderson Way

Mr. Abbott states that based on past practices we should abate the sewer charge that represents the water that never went into the sewer. Mr. Fisher asks about how the average was calculated. The incident occurred over three days.

Motion made by Mr. Abbott Seconded by Mr. Fisher to have the calculations investigated and confirmed before making a vote on the abatement.

Vote 4-0-0 (YES Vote)

Roll Call Vote John Hasenjaeger-Yes, William Abbott-Yes, Pradeep Mishra, Yes, Jeffrey Fisher, Yes

2. Jarvis Farm Application from Norfolk Aggie Alumni-Updated Application and Event Date
September 23, 2022 *(date amended from original Agenda)*

Jeanne Howe from the executive board of the Norfolk Aggie Alumni speaks about the scholarship Corn Hole event. She also is inquiring about catering/food truck option. Mr. Abbott states that a precedent has been set by chuck wagon event for the Boy Scouts and that the Harvest Fair had a food truck. Questions asked regarding the time and amount of cars. Mr. Hasenjaeger brings up concerns about the janitorial/safety responsibilities. Ms. Howe confirms they would take responsibility and make sure that they will clean up after and make sure the area is left the way they found it. More discussion in regards to parking is had.

Motion made by Mr. Abbott Seconded by Mr. Fisher to approve the use of Jarvis Farm for this event.

Vote 4-0-0 (YES Vote)

Roll Call Vote John Hasenjaeger-Yes, William Abbott-Yes, Pradeep Mishra, Yes, Jeffrey Fisher, Yes

Discussion is had whether or not it would be an option to have the Superintendent to authorize these requests due to some of these applications coming in with not enough time for the Board to vote.

Correspondence:

1. Memo from Bill Abbott dated 7/6/22 re: Water Production Current vs. Prior Years
Mr. Abbott presents the numbers for Current Water Production vs. Prior Years. He mentions the current drought situation. Discussion had regarding the restrictions and residents continuing to use the water. Discussion had on fines and warnings.

2. Memo from Bill Abbott dated 7/8/22 re: FY22 Revenue Numbers
Mr. Abbott presents the Revenue numbers. Discussion is had in regard to the numbers.

3. Memo from Bill Abbott dated 7/20/22 re: Groundwater Level Comparison
Mr. Abbott presents infograph. Discussion had regarding the information and the monitoring done.

Old Business:

1. Final Bill Process
Based on request by Mr. Moraski from previous meeting, and outline of the process is provided. Mr. Hasenjaeger explains to the audience about what the process is.

Discussion Items:

1. Customer Care Issues
Mr. Mishra inquires if the Superintendent gets a report on how many calls came in. Mr. Gustafson confirms he does. Mr. Abbott states calls for Sewer & Water issues sometimes go to Collectors office as well, not just the Sewer & Water Department.

2. Meter to Cash Report

Mr. Fisher asks if the majority of the calls that come in are billing related and Mr. Gustafson responds that most are billing questions. Mr. Mishra discusses new tools being able to help direct customers to answers.

3. Availability of State and MWRA Funds

Mr. Gustafson has seen no change or updates in availability. Discussion is had on what items would be included in those needing funds. Mr. Mishra discusses investigating even more options. Mr. Abbott inquires about how we find out about new grants/funds. Mr. Mattson responds that the Massachusetts Water Works Association will notify communities and gives several examples of the types of funds and grants that are sometimes offered.

4. ARPA Status

Discussion had regarding the projects list. Mr. Abbott believes Willis Plant Membranes should be top priority due to how long it takes for the order to come through. Mr. Hasenjaeger voices frustration that the Select Board closes the warrants for selections/approvals whenever they feel like it. Mr. Mattson voices concerns that the board makes sure they know what they want to do about funding other projects if they only have the one big project approved for ARPA fund use. Mr. Abbott suggests that at next meeting we have a list of projects to project that can be voted on.

Motion made by Mr. Abbott ***Seconded by*** Mr. Mishra to adjourn the meeting at 7:34pm.

Date Meeting Minutes Approved With Said Changes ***January 9, 2023***