



TOWN OF HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

500 PLYMOUTH STREET
HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS 02338
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MEETING MINUTES September 13, 2022

5:00 p.m. Donald Bosworth made a motion to open the meeting.
Seconded by Daniel Bosworth

Motion Passes

Present: Richard Clark, Chairman
Daniel O. Bosworth, Jr., Clerk
Donald Bosworth, Commissioner
Bill Lindsay, Superintendent
Kathleen O'Neil, Administrative Assistant

Meeting Minutes

Donald Bosworth made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 9, 2022, as written.
Second by Daniel Bosworth.

Motion Passes

Meeting – Acting Town Administrator

The current acting Town Administrator, Sandy Nolan was in attendance to let the Water Commissioners know she is available to them during this transitional time. She will be doing double duty at the acting Town Administrator and Town Accountant. As the Accountant, she is continuing to work on obtaining ARPA funds to hopefully fund a portion of the water treatment plant upgrades.

Sandy also wanted to discuss a class action lawsuit being put together regarding PFAS contamination. She distributed correspondence (attached) from the law firm handling the suit who is the same law firm that handled the town's successful MBTE lawsuit. She asked if the Commission has any interest in joining. They agreed it would be good to get additional information on it. Sandy said she will reach out to them.

Request for Abatement – 63 South Street

Mr. Matthew Ryan was in attendance to discuss a bill he received for enormously high water usage. Approximately one year ago, the siding on his house was being worked on and the remote reader was taken off and damaged. During this period the usage billed was a third of a million gallons.

The Water Superintendent data logged this meter on two separate occasions from the time this issue was brought to the attention of the water department. One report showed that 3,700 gallons of water was used during one day. Mr. Ryan stated that this day would have to be repeated 1,000 times for his usage to match what was billed. Mr. Ryan firmly stated that there is no way he used that much water in a six-month period.

Dick Clark stated that the 30-day period to request an abatement has ended. Mr. Ryan responded that a member of our staff stated that it was a "waste of time" to apply for an abatement.

Request for Abatement – 63 South Street

Mr. Ryan requested having his existing “satellite reader” removed from his house and replaced with one that has numbers and dials. Bill explained that the existing meter does have numbers, you just need a flashlight to see them.

Dick Clark stated that the water went through the meter somehow and Mr. Ryan is responsible to pay the bill. He also reiterated that too much time has gone by and the abatement window has closed. Mr. Ryan agreed to pay the bill and thanked the Commission for their time.

Discussion – Plant Upgrades

Bill distributed the updated timeline to the Commissioners. DEP approved the plans on August 30, 2022 which was one month later than anticipated. The plans now have to be approved by the EPA by end of day tomorrow.

Discussion – Chlorine Levels

Bill has tested at the outlet pipe and at Wood Street. The majority of the results found chlorine levels at an average of .02. Bill had DEP test the same samples and they found .07. He has no idea how the chlorine level would increase from the time they left the testing site to the DEP.

Discussion – Irrigation Systems

Bill stated that the new Building Inspector, Jim Perry thinks the town should ban irrigation systems in town in order to conserve water. Dick asked Bill what DEP’s thoughts are on this subject. Bill said he hasn’t heard anything. Dick would like this topic placed on a future agenda.

Discussion – October Meeting Date

The Administrative Assistant stated that she will be out of the country during the time of the regularly scheduled October meeting and wants to know if the Commission would like to meet without her or reschedule the meeting date. The Commissioners would like to reschedule to Tuesday, October 4th.

Discussion – Sheds

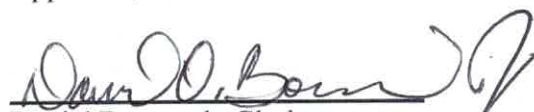
Dick had told Bill that the Housing Authority has two sheds that they are getting rid of. Dick thinks they would be good additional storage for the Water Department. Bill went and checked them out and agreed that they would be useful. Bill said that the Highway Superintendent is also going to go have a look at them to see if they can be safely transported.

Adjournment

6:05 p.m. Daniel Bosworth made a motion to adjourn.
Seconded by Richard Clark

Motion Passes

Approved,


Daniel Bosworth, Clerk