

WEST NEWBURY BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MAY 15, 2023
4:30 P.M. WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE

Commissioners present: Bob Janes, Chair, Jack Duggan and Larry Corcoran
Mark Marlowe Superintendent and Jodi Bertrand, Administrative Assistant

Rick Parker, Chris Wile and Wendy Reed, Select Board and Angus Jennings, Town Manager in the office for joint discussion. (Rebecca taking minutes)

Meeting called to order at 4:40.

Review balances, correspondence and draft minutes from March 28th and April 14th.
(Executive session minutes from May 5th and August 17th being held) Janes moved to approve both March 28th and April 14th minutes, unanimous.

Review Email from Tata & Howard: Jon Gregory sent email showing the anticipated project schedule/sequence for the Church Street and Prospect Street Water Main Project. Distributed copies to the Water Commissioners for discussion.

Pipestave Tank Rehab Update- Marlowe said they are waiting for curing of coating and make sure it is bonding.

Joint discussion with Select Board:

Follow up BOWC memo- Reed apologized for submitting the article without presenting it to the Board and in the future will make sure BOWC are involved with any draft articles or wording of information.

Article #5 Instructions- Jennings would like to see a table of contents/data report (with exhibits) as to what we are looking for that town residents can understand. Jennings suggested a table to show the water rates and how they will skyrocket with going forward with all the future projects. Reed suggested having a target date to have a draft of Table of Contents by July 1st then the designated group could meet. Duggan asked if there is some sort of template that could be used. Could this cause property values to go down or have to do with home assessment, real-estate value or public safety. Jack also stated having a public water system that town residents with wells can fall back on if something detrimental were to happen to a private well, they could get safe water. Jennings envisions this report to make people understand the situation that water rate payers cannot fund future projects alone.

IMA with Newburyport and letter from Ivria Glass-Fried- Discussion of collaborative approach with Select Board and Water Commissioners with City of Newburyport. Reed said that all meetings

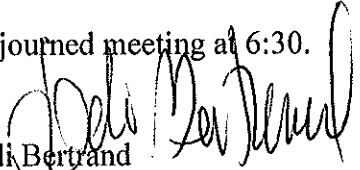
with/having to do with Newburyport will have 1 member of each board to share information and items that we would like to negotiate with Newburyport. Janes, Water Chair said he would be the designated person. Reed and Jennings suggested drafting a letter that the Water Commissioners can look over and send it to Newburyport.

Dole Place Update- Jennings went over some background from past discussions with seller. They are going to re-issue RFQ so that they can get some cost estimates. They will have to get additional testing and the seller will have to approve but currently had not been responding. The Select Board would like the study done so they can bring it to Fall Town Meeting. Jennings went over the documents he has that relate to Dole Place and they will make it available to on webpage for any prospective contractors

Update on Rate Study- Marlowe has been in contact with Tata & Howard and they hope to have the rate study completed. Jennings stated if the Water Commissioners do not raise the rates but fall then we would have to do an article to do a transfer from retained earnings (free cash).

6:10 Jennings and Select Board left the meeting.

Adjourned meeting at 6:30.


Jodi Bertrand
Administrative Assistant