

WEST NEWBURY BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MARCH 28, 2023
4:30 P.M. WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE

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

Rick Parker, Select Board and Angus Jennings, Town Manager in the office.

Meeting called to order at 4:30.

Review balances, correspondence and draft minutes from February 28th and March 7th.
(Executive session minutes from May 5th and August 17th being held) Janes moved to approve the minutes of February 28th and March 7th, unanimous.

Review Articles- Marlowe went through the Special Articles requested as well as the Budget for the Annual Town Meeting.

Pipestave Tank Rehab- Marlowe discussed that notices would be sent to residents next week and that this project will take place around April 10th. It might take approximately 6-8 weeks. West Newbury will not be doing the spring flushing until after project is complete and the wellfield is up and running. It may be that we do not flush until the fall. Parker asked about draining the tank and if it will deteriorate the trail, Marlowe said they are going to try to deflect it so it does not ruin the trail and they will keep an eye on it.

PFAS- Marlowe and Jennings discussed the Zoom Meeting they watched and that a class action suit is being filed by multiple towns.

Commissioners Stipend- Reed suggested to Janes that the Commissioners look into having the board be voluntary and stop taking a stipend. Marlowe called Groveland and Rowley both give stipends to their commissioners and chair. Marlowe also called a few other towns that have not responded yet. Duggan suggested this be tabled and discussed at the next meeting.

Discuss meeting with Ivria Glass-Fried- Janes had the report that we just received from Angus Jennings re: Potential IMA with City of Newburyport. Duggan started looking at report and wonders when the Select Board will start to come to the Water Commissioners to discuss the right endorsement for the plan. The Water Board and Department want to make the agreement and provide comments about each item and how the commissions respond. Duggan is wondering what timing he is looking at to receive feedback. Parker said it will be a long process and our next meeting would be fine. Duggan suggested that the board draft comments/suggestions and at the next Commissioners April meeting discuss and agree on how the IMA should be written/include.

Other Matters:

- Email received from Alyson Tedeschi regarding changing the current by-law restricting water use for only residents on water system. The restrictions should include private well users and she is looking for guidance as to how this could be changed. (process)
- Marlowe had the Tata & Howard amended agreement for Commissioners to sign for additional fees for design and DOT permits of \$6,600.00. Parker chimed in that the article Gootée had submitted was changed by the Select Board/Town Manager to apply the AARP funds of \$625k and then have the article be for the borrowing (authorization to borrow) of the project so that they know the project can be funded and basically the pipe can be put in the ground.

Gootée left the meeting at 6:00.

Adjourned meeting at 6:03.

Jodi Bertrand
Administrative Assistant

