

## WMAC Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2022

Attendees: David Crosby – Chair, David Brookfield, Anne Carney, David Hearne, Robert (Rory) McGregor – Secretary

Guests: Eric Hooper, Superintendent - Sharon DPW

1. WMAC minutes for zoom meeting held on March 17<sup>th</sup> were approved.
2. Select Board approved the proposed water rate increases at their meeting on Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Implementation of new water rates is effective for customer invoices sent out in Q4 of this fiscal year (April – June 2022).
3. Eric Hooper will schedule a field trip to familiarize Select Board members with our Sharon water distribution system in June. WMAC members are invited to participate.
3. Warrant Article 10 for the upcoming town meeting on May 2nd proposes the PFAS filtration system for Wells #4 and #2. Other pollutants such as iron, manganese, and nitrates may be addressed at the same time. Location of the new system is at Well #2 on Moose Hill Parkway. Current project design is estimated to cost approximately \$15M with a 3-year time estimate for completion of construction. Current plan is to solicit project bids sometime this summer. Financing includes State and Federal grants and loans. Actual cost to Sharon customers will be between \$5M and \$10M.
4. Warrant Article 18 for the upcoming town meeting proposes the bylaw update for outdoor water use and includes the requirement that residential inground irrigation systems be equipped with a water meter installed by the town.
5. Eric Hooper reported on Water Department activity during March:

Pumping: 32,554,000 gallons. Highest volume since 2015; hydrant flushing started earlier than usual contributing to the higher volume. Water Department revenue was up slightly therefore.

UAW: Unaccounted for water at 7.98% is slightly high but under permit requirement.

Nitrate: Dropped slightly at both Well 2 and 4. Well 4 is below study limit of 5mg/L.

GW Level: Groundwater table is at normal level for Springtime prior to leaf out.

PFAS: Measurements show some drop in concentration but well 4 is still well above DEP limit. Treatment to remove PFAS with resin filter at Well 4 is effective with no detectable concentrations after treatment.

Construction: Rings at new Massapoag Ave Tank should be in place by the end of the week.

MWRA emergency connection is largely complete and tested. Waiting for Norwood and Sharon spring flushing to be completed prior to full system test.

Residential water meter installation scheduling has started with some initial appointments booked for early May. WMAC committee members should get contacted in the next few weeks.

Revenue: Now on target for annual income at \$4.8 million which overcomes the initially projected deficit of \$200,000

6. Dave Hearne recommended that we update the master plan for the Water Department and think about succession planning at the same time. One suggestion that came up was working with a student(s) to conduct a preliminary review.

7. Next WMAC meeting is May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm via ZOOM conference call.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory McGregor