

WMAC Meeting Minutes – March 17th, 2022

Attendees: David Crosby – Chair, David Brookfield, Anne Carney, David Hearne, Lealdon Langley, Robert (Rory) McGregor – Secretary, Chris Pimentel – Vice Chair

Guests: Eric Hooper, Superintendent - Sharon DPW
Ira Miller, Vice-Chair – Sharon Town Finance Committee

1. WMAC minutes for zoom meeting held on February 17th were approved.
2. Public hearings on the proposed water rate increases will be scheduled by the Select Board at their meeting on Wednesday, March 23rd to which WMAC members are invited. After public hearings, implementation of new water rates will commence on July 1st.
3. Ira Miller is preparing the wording of the warrant article on the proposed bylaw update to require dedicated water meter installation on inground residential water irrigation systems. Eric Hooper explained that the bylaw update should state nothing more than that. Detailed procedures for implementation will be described in the regulations set by the Water Department after the bylaw update is approved at Sharon Town Meeting on May 2nd.
4. Eric reports that lead time to procure concrete-lined ductile iron pipe for the proposed PFAS filtration system could be up to 36 weeks for delivery. 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.
5. Low level of water in Lake Massapoag is due to discharge gate at rotary not closing all the way. It sits on a metal frame that has a slight gap between the bottom of the gate.
6. High nitrate levels in ground water at Well #4 is perplexing. Several septic systems in the nearby neighborhood have been replaced during the past year. Proposed PFAS filtration system with activated carbon filter may also be helpful in removal of nitrates.
7. Eric Hooper reported on Water Department activity during February:

Pumping: 28,633,000 gallons - 3 million gallons above last 5-year average. High School construction work is possible cause; also looking for leaks.
UAW: not determined yet – should have this number by next meeting

Groundwater: uniform decrease in water table depth by about 6" – normal for late winter/early spring.

Nitrate: Well #4 6.14 mg/L, back above 6. Asked septic inspector to give me a list of recent failed and replaced systems. Apparently there are a few within the last 6 months that were relatively near the well.

Well #2 – no change between samples taken 10/21 and 2/22

PFAS: Blended 1.3 ug/L, no detects at well #4 after treatment, raw untreated well #4 PFAS6 – 82 ug/L

Construction: MWRA construction wrapping up, internal test Wednesday. Waiting for DEP approval for Norwood connection test.

Massapoag Water Tank – Pan lifted Tuesday, Concrete fill scheduled for next Wednesday, dome under construction on site.

Revenue: Will be available tomorrow

*. Next WMAC meeting is April 21st at 7:30pm via ZOOM conference call.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory McGregor