

WMAC Meeting Minutes October 15, 2015

Attendees: David Crosby, Chair; Anne Carney, David Hearne, Lealdon Langley, Paul Lauenstein, Chris Pimental

Guests: Eric Hooper, Superintendent, Sharon DPW; Leah P. Stanton, PE, Weston & Sampson

Minutes of the July 23, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

Members of the committee received a draft of an updated plan prepared by Weston & Sampson, namely, a Water System Capital Improvement Plan that included a spreadsheet giving cost estimates and the proposed fiscal year for implementing the capital improvements. Leah gave an overview of the updated plan and stated that none of the dates were set in stone. The draft consisted of seven sections dealing with the major issues that need to be addressed in the foreseeable future.

1. Section 1-Water Storage

This area deals with the condition of the tanks and when they will have to be repainted. There are recommendations about when inspections should be done and how to prioritize the repainting.

Section 2 - Regional Alternatives – MWRA-Norwood Connection

The plan would include 12 inch high pressure water mains on Tiot and Edge Hill Rd and a pump station. The recommendation also includes a Norwood St. transmission main. The projected cost in today's dollars is over two million dollars. Eric mentioned that a Canton St well is not a viable option. The Town doesn't own the property and the well would have to be in wetlands.

Section 3- Water Meter Evaluation

The discussion centered on when the seven year old system should be replaced with newer technology that could more accurately track pumping and billing. The newer systems could help

track leaks and help reduce the percentage of UAW. The recommendation is to move toward an automatic meter reading system (AMR).

Section 4- Leak Detection System Evaluation

Unaccounted for water (UAW) is running at over 12%. The recommendation is to use a phased approach if the decision is made to procure and install a permanent leak detection system. This would spread out the large capital cost.

Section 5 – Stormwater Report

This report was not discussed in depth since it covers a lot of information that needs to be read by the committee.

Section 6 – Planning Level Cost Estimate to Provide Filtration for Well 6

This section deals with estimating the costs involved in removing the manganese from well 6.

The total project cost to bring this well up to acceptable standards is 6.26 M

Section 7 –Water GIS & Hydraulic Model Database Management

Water System Improvement Unit Prices

This was not discussed except to note that the water rates would need to increase in order to fund the future projects.

Since the Conservation Commission was still tied up with its meeting, Eric gave his report. He said that the September pumping was above the average of the last several years and the annual pumping would be 490,000,000-500,000,000 gallons. Groundwater elevations were mixed with shallow wells showing some recovery but overall no change. Water Smart will have its rollout and this should help customers track their water usage more accurately. Eric is also working on the proposed FY2017 budget and will submit it the first week in November.

There was a twenty minute break while the committee waited for the Conservation Committee to end its meeting.

At 9:20 PM the meeting resumed with members of the Conservation Committee in attendance. Lealdon Langley recused himself from the meeting at this time. Peg Arguimbau, Chair, Conservation Commission stated that the Commission was looking at all of the current monitoring wells and other areas to get baseline elevations to determine the impact of pumping on the wetlands on a year to year basis. There was considerable discussion on what value would be gained by doing this. The conclusion was that Eric and WMAC will meet with the Conservation Commission and representatives of the company hired by the Commission to see what information can be gained and how it will be helpful to both groups.

1. The next meeting will be on November 19, 2015 at 7:30PM at the Community Center
2. Adjournment at 9:54 PM

Acting Secretary

Anne Carney