

WMAC Meeting Minutes, November 19, 2015

Attendees: David Crosby - Chair, Anne Carney, David Hearne, Lealdon Langley, Paul Lauenstein – Vice Chair, Rory McGregor – Secretary

Guest: Eric Hooper, Superintendent - Sharon DPW

1. Minutes from the October 15 meeting were approved as amended.
2. David Crosby would like the Draft Water Master Plan dated September 2015 prepared by Weston & Sampson (W&S) to be reformatted to align with the original Master Plan dated 2010. References to sections in the original Master Plan which are omitted should be identified.

Eric Hooper will email WMAC committee members the document that identifies the tasks assigned to W&S to perform the Master Plan update. Major areas that he asked them to revisit:

- a) Maintenance costs for the water tanks to include painting and ultimate replacement cost.
- b) Infrastructure costs for capital improvement projects: connection to MWRA, upgrade at Well #6 to remove manganese and iron, upgrade of our remote-read water meter system.
- c) Leak detection technology that is now being used to improve the timely identification of water system leaks.
- d) Storm water management. David Crosby suggested that we consider wetlands recharge as a possible goal for use of reclaimed storm water.

3. Eric will invite W&S to attend our next meeting and review the details of the Water Master Plan described above.

4. Selectmen approved the following rate increase to become effective Jan 1st 2016. Fixed fee per quarter for all accounts increases to \$22.50. Water rate per 1000 gallons for the top residential block (under 200 accounts altogether) increases from \$13.50 to \$13.75. This will net about \$55,000 per year in increased revenues. See the attached document for the schedule of new water rates.

5. Unaccounted for water is down to 8%. The problem could have been a summertime issue.

6. Certified retained earnings in the Water Dept account is around \$3.5 million.

7. Eric encouraged WMAC members to respond to the Water Smart survey.

8. The next meeting will be Thursday December 17th at 7:30 pm at the Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory McGregor