

WMAC Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2020

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; Rob Terpstra – Water Department Supervisor; Margaret McCarthy, Weston & Sampson

1. Minutes for WMAC April 16, 2020 meeting were approved.
2. Eric and Margaret will put together a template for evaluating contractor proposals to replace residential water meters throughout Sharon. Towns that have recently completed similar projects will be a potential source of information for the template. Scope of work will include the water meter (either mechanical or solid state), the data collection system (fixed network using either radio signal or cellular signal), and software for data analysis and reporting/billing. The bidding procedure will involve judging and ranking the technical proposals first, then opening/reviewing the cost proposals. WMAC will make its recommendation to award the contract to the bidder who provides the best overall solution for the town's requirements. Equipment reliability, system longevity, provision for software upgrades are factors that will be evaluated in the technical proposal. Purchase price, operating expense, and repair costs will be evaluated in the cost proposal.
3. Eric reported that Covid-19 impacts over the past 2 months include higher costs for construction contracts, delayed starts to work performance by contractors, and no access to residences to correct water meter problems. The Water Department has kept its staff fully employed and engaged during this time accomplishing scheduled work such as daily well site/pump house inspections and town wide hydrant flushing.

4. Eric's report on Water Department activity for April:

Pumping/Consumption

32.3 million gallons for the month, up roughly 10% over the last 3-4 years. Consistent with increases seen by other residential dominated systems.

Peak day 1.366 million gallons, average for month just over 1 million gallons per day

UAW approximately 4.5%, This number will increase by 1% as estimated bills are corrected – about 125 bills are currently estimated as radios fail. We typically estimate high creating incentive for homeowners to call to have the meter heads replaced. However, because of access issues, we have not been going into people's homes.

Revenue

Projected end of fiscal year approximately \$4.2 million, increase of \$225,000 over last year and \$400,000 over figure used for budget purposes.

Nitrate

Decreases seen at both Well #2 (2.62 mg/l) and well #4 (4.19mg/l). Both well below 5 mg/l study trigger.

Groundwater

Normal for beginning of growing season.

Maintenance
Flushing program completed.

Construction

Meter Replacement:

Begin RFP – July 1, 2020
RFP Available to Vendors – September 8, 2020
Proposals Due – October 9, 2020
Interviews – early November 2020**
Final Selection – end of November 2020
Execute Contract with Equipment Vendor – Dec 2020
Installation Bid Development – Fall 2020
Final – once final Vendor selection (Dec 2020)
Bids Due – January 2021
Software/System Installation – Feb/Mar 2021
Begin full scale meter installation Mar 2021

MWRA Emergency Connection Pump Station – Tiot Street

Bids due – end of June 2020
Execute Contracts – July/Aug 2020
Begin Construction – late Aug/early Sept
Contract duration – 14 months
Contract Completion – fall 2021

Tentative Schedule - Massapoag Avenue Tank Replacement

Bids due – end of June 2020
Execute Contracts – July/Aug 2020
Begin Construction – late Aug/early Sept
Contract duration – 10 months
Contract Completion – summer 2021

5. Next WMAC meeting is scheduled to take place online on June 18 at 7:30pm via ZOOM conference call.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory McGregor