

WMAC Meeting Minutes for June 18, 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 May 21, 2020 meeting were approved.
2. Eric and Margaret will put together a draft RFP (Request for Proposal) to solicit contractor proposals on replacement of residential water meters throughout Sharon. Draft document will be emailed to WMAC members prior to meeting. Scope of work will include the supply of 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. WMAC will assist the Water Department by ranking the technical proposals using the evaluation template proposed by Eric and Margaret that was discussed at this meeting. 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 separate cost proposal submitted each bidder. Contractor cost proposals will be opened by Eric after the technical evaluation has been completed.

3. Eric reported that Covid-19 impacts over the past 3 months and minor design relocation of tank structure on current site has resulted in potential higher cost for construction contract on replacement of Massapoag Avenue Water Tank. Net result is that start of work will probably be delayed to Spring 2021.

4. Eric's report on Water Department activity for May 2020:

Pumping/UAW (Unaccounted for Water)

39,197,000 gallons for the month; approximately 12% increase over last year

33,400,797 gallons billed; approximately 14.8% UAW for month, mid-quarter read 6.87% for year

Water consumption is up roughly 10% for months of March, April and May. We expect this trend to continue through the duration of the COVID 19 quarantine and to some extent beyond as people continue to work from home. This increase is consistent with what other primarily residential communities have seen.

Maximum day was 1.682 million gallons (Memorial Day)

Average day 1.264 million gallons

Groundwater elevation

Normal, consistent with statewide drought indices which, except for precipitation in the western part of the state, is normal.

Revenue

\$630,793 for the month; annual revenue estimate is \$4,448,112

On track to exceed expenses by \$1.1 million. Increased revenues are due to increased residential water consumption; lower expenses are due to project delays. COVID 19 pandemic is the underlying cause in both cases.

Nitrates

Increases at both Wells #2 and #4 after several months of decreases. Well #2 is considerably below study threshold of 5 mg/l. Well #4 is below the threshold but closer to 5mg/l.

Construction projects

The emergency connection to MWRA water supply through the town of Norwood is on schedule to take place later this year. The Massapoag Avenue Tank replacement project may experience a delay to next year as noted in item 3 above.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Rory McGregor