

WMAC Meeting Minutes – September 23rd, 2021

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

Guests: Eric Hooper, Superintendent- Sharon DPW, Debbie Tatro – Town resident

1. WMAC minutes for meeting held on August 19th 2021 were reviewed and approved.
2. Eric confirmed that septic tanks in the vicinity of Well #4 are the primary source for PFAS6 family chemicals in the groundwater. The town will continue to test “raw” groundwater before and after the resin filter at Well #4 for PFAS6 family chemicals and report the data on the Water Department website.
3. Eric reported that the town of Wayland MA has reached a similar conclusion on source of PFAS6 family chemicals coming from septic systems. The town of Easton has engaged a manufacturer of fire-fighting foam in a legal suit as the source of PFAS6 family chemicals in their drinking water.
4. The Water Department continues to work with Environmental Partners Group to identify the optimal long-term solution for treatment/removal of PFAS6 chemicals in the groundwater at Wells #4, #2, and #3 and the removal of iron/manganese at Well #5. Eric reported that the Water Department increased pH from 7 to 8 in reaction to discoveries made by Flint MI regarding water treatment; one consequence of this adjustment is that iron and manganese become more present in the drinking water.
5. There is need for a definitive article on how home-owners can take action to investigate home products for possible sources of PFAS6 family chemicals and accomplish appropriate disposal.
6. Draft bylaw for inground lawn irrigation systems to be equipped with water meter supplied by our Water Department was reviewed. Dave Hearne will incorporate language used by town of Wayland to incorporate lien provision. Submission of bylaw to Select Board by January will allow the bylaw to be considered at the Spring Town Meeting.
7. Eric Hooper submitted the following report on Water Department activity during August:

Monthly Pumping:

41,098,000 gallons - low for August (relatively wet). On target for 410 million gallons for year which would be one of the lowest in the past 25 years. Per capita appears to be well within permit limit of 65 RGPCD.
UAW 5.87%, well within permit requirement.

Revenue:

Year to date \$1,238,000, slightly below last year, but too early in fiscal year to project annual revenue.

Nitrate:

Well #4 above 6mg/L – unusually high. Resin treatment does not remove nitrate. Activated carbon with sufficient resident time has been shown to reduce nitrate.

Tank:

No work during first three weeks of September: Labor Day, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur. Work will resume week of September 27, pouring concrete floor in pedestal.

MWRA Connection:

Delay obtaining roof ventilate panels.

Meters:

Rebid for installation now scheduled for October/November pending firm delivery schedule for meter delivery.

Irrigation bylaw:

Combined available versions including model bylaw from state – Section 15 of attached document refers to irrigation systems.

Groundwater:

High normal.

8. Next WMAC meeting is October 21st 2021 at 7:30pm via ZOOM conference call.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory McGregor, Secretary