



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
OPEN SESSION
WATER DEPT OFFICE - 22 ELM ST, MICHAEL J.
MACPHERSON MEETING ROOM & VIA ZOOM
JULY 16, 2024

3:30 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Richard W. Loring Jr called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

In attendance were Commissioner Robert Kostka, Kristen Berger of Resilient CE and Clerk Stacey Smith.

Attending via ZOOM was Superintendent Chris Veracka.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT BILL SCHEDULES:

MEETING MINUTES:

TABLE MINUTES OF JULY 2, 2024 UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING

No action or discussion

APPOINTMENTS:

KRISTEN BERGER, RESILIENT CE RE: ENGINEERING UPDATES

MAIN STREET WATER MAIN PROJECT UPDATES

Ms. Berger stated the project started early this morning with the contractor alerting the town that there would be no work being done today. This is due to the inability to acquire proper traffic control/police details. CC Construction was notified at 8pm last night and it was too late to acquire flaggers.

Going forward, the contractor will now have to line up both flaggers and police details to ensure work does not stop. However, if the police details are able to be scheduled and flaggers are scheduled as well, the additional cost will be on the town. Ms. Berger stated the Town Administrator is aware, and he contacted her this morning to discuss the issue. He stated he will be meeting with the police chief today regarding filling police details. Ms. Berger stated we are missing out on days to complete this work. Ms. Berger also told CC Construction they need to notify the KWD of flagging expenses on a regular basis.

At 4:32 pm resident Mark Guidoboni entered the meeting.

She stated the Town Administrator is going to propose an earlier time frame to notify the contractor that the details couldn't be filled in order to schedule flaggers if needed. Discussion continued regarding the procedure going forward. Ms. Berger stated it's frustrating as CC Construction has equipment sitting on site unable to work, and they could look to the town to recoup the expense.

Superintendent Veracka stated he had discussions with the police chief, fire chief, highway superintendent and the town administrator regarding the week's notification to schedule details. Chairman Loring asked how the police chief responded. Superintendent Veracka stated the police chief has to present the issue to the police union.

Ms. Berger stated today that she received a call from the Mass DOT inspector, who stated the traffic yesterday was quite significant, especially at the end of the day. They had spoken with the police chief and decided it was best for the work needed to be done at night for this short section. Ms. Berger stated night work is difficult to arrange, and it is such a short distance past the intersection at Hilltop. She said she cleaned up the traffic plan, resubmitted it to DOT, and it was verbally approved to detour, and we are awaiting the formal written approval. The revised plan is for one lane of traffic on Main Street and a detour for the other lane. The contractor has been notified and is acquiring the signage for

the detour. Chairman Loring suggested the one way open should be on the south side to allow emergency vehicles to get to the hospital in Plymouth. Discussion continued regarding which department should be determining the open lane on Main Street, whether it be the police or fire departments.

Regarding test pits on the north side of the Jones River, a drain line exists that is not where the survey shows it. Two solutions to dealing with this were with a tap/sleep/valve which is not possible due to the drain line being 58 inches deep.

The other suggestion is cutting a T. This will have more of an impact and will require a shut-down to construct it. The contractor is ordering some different fittings for this situation.

She said the sewer line is deep and gets more shallow as it heads toward the Jones River, and it is in the way of the work. Ms. Berger stated it's not typical of what we usually do, but in this case, we can go under the cement-encased sewer line with the water main.

Ms. Berger stated most utilities are on the opposite side of the project. The contractor installed approximately 180 feet of water main yesterday. They will work from 9am-3pm tomorrow, and they hope to finish the Hilltop intersection. She added, once they get past this point, they will resume their normal schedule.

There has been some frustration with motorists and traffic delays. Superintendent Veracka recommended a town-wide Blackboard Connect notification regarding the detour plans. Ms. Smith stated she just needs very specific information if she is going to send out a town-wide notification.

At 3:45pm Vice Chairman Erlandsen entered the meeting.

DCR FINAL WATER NEEDS FORECAST FOR KWD

Ms. Berger stated the final version of the water needs forecast has been accepted by DCR. Related to this, Superintendent Veracka received notice of the unaccounted for water at 20%, which exceeds the state's standard. Mass DEP has sent a letter requesting an action plan to address this.

This action plan needs to be submitted by the end of July to be in compliance. This letter should include a compliance plan.

Ms. Smith stated she asked Ms. Berger to review a plan for the Kingsbury Club at 188 Summer St. Ms. Smith stated this plan is scheduled for planning board review on July 22 and Brad McKenzie, engineer for the project, reached out today seeking some input from the Kingston Water Department. He had emailed Superintendent Veracka but had not heard back from him. She continued, this is why it's being presented this evening and was not on the agenda. Ms. Berger stated they are proposing a solar array over the parking lot. Commissioner Kostka stated he's surprised more businesses aren't pursuing this technology. Ms. Berger stated after reviewing their water quality certificate and the plan, it appears there are not any changes being made to the total impervious surface or how the drainage system currently operates. Chairman Loring stated in light of this review, Kingston water has no objection to the solar overlay. Commissioner Kostka moved that a memo be sent to the planning board stating no objection by the Board of Water Commissioners to this project. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

Chairman Loring stated regarding a new well, he would like to gather some estimates for permitting, engineering, the pump station etc... in preparation for the Fall town meeting. Town Administrator Keith Hickey has requested an article for the town meeting. Discussion continued on how to go about this process.

Ms. Berger stated a more detailed schedule needs to be developed. She needs to speak with the hydro-geologist regarding testing and then see if funding is available in the budget to do so. Ms. Smith said there remains approximately 10K left in a previous well testing article. Ms. Berger stated there will be some additional water testing that will need to be done on the site before any of the major work starts.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

KWD EMPLOYEES ARE ACTIVELY MITIGATING AND REPAIRING LEAKS ACROSS TOWN. HEAT HAS BEEN AN ISSUE; BUT THE CREW HAS HANDLED IT WELL AND IS SCHEDULING REPAIRS ACCORDING TO THE HEAT INDEX. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT BETWEEN JULY 2-JULY 12, THE DEPARTMENT WAS DOWN 2 EMPLOYEES DUE TO A RESIGNATION AND A

VACATION. THIS LEFT A 2-MAN CREW WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT WHEN NEEDED.

Superintendent Veracka referenced the numerous phone calls he was on regarding the Main Street Project. He said the pump operator position has been posted.

Regarding the leaks across town, the crew has been hard at work in this heat, all while being short-staffed. Superintendent Veracka stated Bog View, a small cul-de-sac, which is the latest phase of Tall Timbers, appears to have a leak. He remembers during the installation of that main there was a failure. He contacted Mike Opachinski at SLT Construction and asked them to come take a look. Mike stated if it was related to "workmanship", they would cover the work and repair. Superintendent Veracka stated they came out today and found no leaks or failures. Superintendent Veracka said he would follow up with SLT when he was back from vacation. He thanked SLT Construction and Mike Opachinski for their help.

Superintendent Veracka stated on Friday of last week, there was a catastrophic compressor failure of the dehumidifier at Grassy Hole. Northeast Refrigeration was called out and they estimated the work at 10K. In the meantime, Ms. Berger researched the warranty and the compressor has a five-year warranty.

Superintendent Veracka said he will follow up with Desert Air, the manufacturer, when he returns next week.

OCPC REGIONAL STUDY IS REQUESTING ATTENDANCE FROM KWD REPRESENTATIVES FOR A ZOOM INTERVIEW TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TOWN'S NEEDS AND PRIORITIZED GOALS.

Superintendent Veracka stated OCPC Regional Planning is looking for a ZOOM meeting with a representative(s) from the Kingston Water Department to discuss their regional study.

Vice Chairman Erlandsen stated he'd been asked by Commissioner Kostka to take the lead on this and asked Superintendent Veracka if he could join him in this meeting. Superintendent Veracka agreed and said they could look at the dates provided and choose one that's convenient for the two of them.

Superintendent Veracka stated, as a final note, he wanted to thank the crew for all the hard work. He said they've done a great job being short-staffed and especially in this heat. He thanked Stacey and Laurie in the office for handling the calls and servicing the residents, which isn't always easy, and stated they do a great job.

Chairman Loring stated he was made aware of a public information request for copies of meeting minutes. He stated meeting minutes are not made public until they are approved and voted on by the Board. After discussion with the requester, Mark Guidoboni, he clarified he was requesting a copy of the water rate study. Additionally, Mr. Guidoboni shared the Plymouth water rates with the board and highlighted the summer rates. He thought it might be something they might want to consider moving forward.

NEW ENGLAND WATER DISTRIBUTION SERVICE (LEAK DETECTION) WILL BE CONTACTING KWD TO SCHEDULE A SURVEY.

No discussion or action. Provided for informational purposes only.

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NONE

WATER CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAST MEETING:

NONE

BUSINESS OF WATER QUALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

NONE

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

JULY 30, 2024 AT 3:30PM

ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION:

Commissioner Kostka moved to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

ZOOM INFORMATION

TOPIC: BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

TIME: THIS IS A RECURRING MEETING MEET ANYTIME

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/89052013207?PWD=AWNZOWIYK01WCGZJR2VEBFJNDVLSQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89052013207?pwd=AWNZOWIYK01WCGZJR2VEBFJNDVLSQT09)

MEETING ID: 890 5201 3207

PASSCODE: 444915

ONE TAP MOBILE

+16469313860,,89052013207#,,,,*444915# US

+13017158592,,89052013207#,,,,*444915# US (WASHINGTON DC)

DIAL BY YOUR LOCATION

• +1 646 931 3860 US

• +1 646 558 8656 US (NEW YORK)

MEETING ID: 890 5201 3207

PASSCODE: 444915

FIND YOUR LOCAL NUMBER: [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/U/KDWSDDJYBD](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89052013207?pwd=AWNZOWIYK01WCGZJR2VEBFJNDVLSQT09)

Respectfully submitted,



Stacey L. Smith
Clerk