



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
OPEN SESSION
WATER DEPT OFFICE - 22 ELM ST, MICHAEL J.
MACPHERSON MEETING ROOM & VIA ZOOM
MARCH 10, 2025

4:00 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Robert Erlandsen called the meeting order at 4:00pm.

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

Chairman Loring was not in attendance.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT BILL SCHEDULES:

MEETING MINUTES:

MINUTES OF 2/2/5/25 TO BE TABLED - NOT COMPLETE

APPOINTMENTS:

KRISTEN BERGER, RESILIENT CE RE: ENGINEERING UPDATES

MAIN STREET WATER MAIN UPDATE - FINAL PAVING IN APRIL

Ms. Berger stated a ZOOM meeting is scheduled on March 24, 2025 with public safety officials, Mass DOT, and contractors. That will be followed by an onsite meeting scheduled for April 8, 2025 which will include a walk-through of the work area. She stated we have received Mass DOT approval for the daytime work hours. We are still awaiting approval for the short-term ramp closure.

NEW WELL UPDATE - KLEINFELDER SCOPE AND FEE AGREEMENT

Ms. Berger stated Kleinfelder accepted town counsel's contract revisions. Kleinfelder agreed with the revisions. They supplied a final copy of the contract. Ms. Smith stated the signature page is missing signature lines for the Board of Water Commissioners. The signature page needs to be updated to include signature lines for the Board of Water Commissioners. Ms. Berger said she would contact Kleinfelder to correct that. Once that has been corrected and signed, a kick-off meeting will be scheduled.

GRANT UPDATE AND INFORMATION (IF ANY)

Ms. Berger stated the Drought Resiliency Grant Program through the Environmental Affairs Office had stated that review and notification of award would be completed by the end of February. That has not happened. The longer it takes to be awarded, the less likely it will be to find a contractor to do the work in the timeframe allotted. Ms. Berger said the leak detection company has checked in with her, and she let them know we are still waiting to hear back from the grant program.

Vice Chairman Erlandsen asked to revisit the Kleinfelder discussion. He stated, once the contract is signed a kick-off meeting will be held. Will that be with the Board? Ms. Berger stated the kick-off meeting is typically just project organizers. After that, we can ask Kleinfelder to join the next commissioner's meeting to discuss the results of the kick-off meeting.

Commissioner Kostka stated we would look to Ms. Berger, as the OPM, for guidance. Vice Chairman Erlandsen asked if at least one member should be present.

Ms. Berger stated it can't hurt and when she speaks to Kleinfelder about the signature page, she'll suggest some dates to meet with the board.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

COLLECTION OF INFORMATION FOR THE ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT IS UNDERWAY. REPORT DUE TO MASSDEP THE END OF MARCH

Superintendent Veracka stated he is working on information collection for the Annual Statistical Report (ASR) for Mass DEP. He stated he's hoping to see some positive change and decrease in the unaccounted for water (UAW) figure. Commissioner Kostka stated this is important. We need to be able to explain the unaccounted for water (UAW) and hopefully we will see a decrease.

MARCH WATER/SEWER BILLS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED

Information only. No discussion took place.

FCC LICENSE AND SIGNAL IS IN PROCESS. THIS TO STOP INTERFERENCE WITH EVERSOURCE ACQUIRING THE KINGSTON WATER DEPARTMENT'S SIGNAL.

Superintendent Veracka stated town counsel has been in communication with the Eversource attorney as we work through the licensing process. Our application for a new license has been submitted to the FCC and we are awaiting that to be completed.

BOS HAS REQUESTED A COMMISSIONER TO MEET WITH THEM ON TUESDAY MARCH 11 AT 6PM FOR A SHORT UPDATE ON THE MORATORIUM AND STATUS OF NEW WELL PROJECT.

Ms. Smith stated this meeting has been rescheduled twice now. Vice Chairman Erlandsen stated he has an obligation he's unable to reschedule. Commissioner Kostka and Superintendent Veracka will attend the Board of Selectman meeting. Ms. Smith referenced materials in the packet to bring to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

AT & T CELL TOWER CONTRACT - 254 PEMBROKE STREET

Superintendent Veracka stated AT&T has reached out to renegotiate their cell tower contract. He had sent the information to the town administrator. The town administrator said it was the water department's responsibility. Ms. Smith reached out to the town administrator and explained the history on the cell tower contracts. It has always been the Board of Selectmen who are the "Lessors" in the contract. They have been the ones to negotiate the financial terms. Once that is determined, the Board of Water Commissioners reviews the contract for language simply to make sure KWD is not impeded in any way to perform maintenance such as tank painting. Once the review is complete, the contract is sent back to the Board of Selectmen for execution. The proceeds from the contract have always been split evenly between the Board of Selectmen and the Water Department.

Commissioner Kostka asked what AT&T is looking to renegotiate. Superintendent Veracka stated they wanted unrestricted 24-hour access, more ground space and the lease amount lowered. Vice Chairman Erlandsen asked, so do they want more for less?

Superintendent Veracka stated, yes, essentially. Vice Chairman Erlandsen said if they're asking for more, they shouldn't be trying to renegotiate less money. Discussion ensued.

Superintendent Veracka, on an unrelated note, updated the Board on a leak this past Sunday that needed to be fixed immediately. At High Pines and Indian Pond Road, a leak occurred which caused considerable road damage. This was after another Sunday break last weekend at Smith's Lane and Crescent Street and, due to the freezing temperatures, it couldn't wait until Monday to be repaired. Superintendent Veracka stated the crews did a great job responding for two weekends in a row. He wanted to call attention to their work and the great job they did.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NONE

WATER CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAST MEETING:

LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2025 TO 296 PEMBROKE ST RE: NO MOTION ON REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT

LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2025 TO 52 GROVE ST RE: NO MOTION ON REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT

BUSINESS OF WATER QUALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

NONE

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025 AT 4PM

ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION:

Commissioner Kostka made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (2-0-0).

The meeting adjourned at 4:17pm.

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)

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Respectfully submitted,



Stacey L. Smith
Clerk