



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
OPEN SESSION
WATER DEPT OFFICE - 22 ELM ST, MICHAEL J.
MACPHERSON MEETING ROOM & VIA ZOOM
AUGUST 26, 2025

3:45 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robert Erlandsen called the meeting to order at 3:45pm.

In attendance were Vice Chairman Robert Kostka, Commissioner Richard W. Loring Jr, Superintendent Chris Veracka, Kristen Berger of Resilient CE and Clerk Stacey Smith.

Also in attendance were resident Mark Guidoboni and Dan May representing the May Family Trust.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT BILL SCHEDULES:

MEETING MINUTES:

NO COMPLETED MEETING MINUTES TO APPROVE

APPOINTMENTS:

DAN MAY RE: DONATION OF A PARCEL OF LAND

Mr. Dan May presented to the Board a proposal for a land donation through his family trust. He explained his family developed Gurnett Woods. Part of the process included purchasing town water from Trackle Pond to the top of Clearing Farm Road. Mr. May presented the water layout map to the Board. He pointed out a water easement was relocated to Lot 11 which crossed the power lines. The main water line runs from Whistler to Clearing Farm and Parting Ways. The piece of property being offered is 20' wide, and it's bounded at all points. Mr. May stated it's a piece of land that his family has no plans to do anything with in the future. He pointed out the abutters land, formerly owned by Teresa Kelleher has been acquired by the Board of Water Commissioners. His family would like to donate the land to the Board of Water Commissioners. The piece of property between the May property and the town property is owned by New England Gas/Electric (Eversource). This land has been in his family for many years, and they have the right to cross that property and those same rights come with this particular deed. Mr. May stated the deed was prepared by the trustee, who is also his brother and an attorney. He added the deed tracks the acquisition of the Kelleher Property.

Commissioner Loring stated he would like to thank the May Family for the offer of the land and the easement so that sometime in the future this could improve water flow in the area. He made a motion to accept the land upon review by Town Counsel and approval of the Board of Selectmen, if necessary. Vice Chairman Kostka seconded the motion, and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

Superintendent Veracka confirmed that only the electrical poles separate and connect this lot to Kingston Water Department property formerly known as the Kelleher property. Mr. May confirmed that is correct. He reviewed earlier discussion with the power company regarding the access across the power lines.

Ms. Smith asked for contact information for Mr. May's brother should Town Counsel need to reach out. Mr. May provided her the information.

KRISTEN BERGER, RESILIENT CE RE: ENGINEERING UPDATES

UPDATE ON MAIN STREET WATER MAIN PROJECT PUNCH LIST ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED

Ms. Berger provided an update on the Main Street Water Main Project. She stated CC Construction has been working on the punchlist of items to be completed, including clearing out covered valves and repairing damaged curbstops. They still have to repair traffic markings on the town side of Main Street and will work on those tomorrow after 10 am, to

avoid issues with school traffic. There are areas that need to be re-seeded to establish grass and there remains a depression near Summer Street that needs to be addressed as well. CC Construction was unable to acquire police details for this last amount of work, so they had to use flaggers.

Ms. Berger stated regarding the budget, retainage with all the costs, still looks to be under budget. Ms. Berger hopes to have all this buttoned up within 30 days or so.

NEW WELL PROJECT UPDATE WITH KLEINFELDER

Ms. Berger stated Kleinfelder submitted the site exam to Mass DEP Southeast Region Drinking Water Program.

Discussion took place regarding an upcoming meeting with Mass DEP regarding enforcement action.

Chairman Erlandsen stated an executive session meeting needs to be posted for Sept 16th at 1pm for the meeting with Mass DEP. He requested a letter be drafted, with some checkpoints to cover and items that we have already addressed, prior to the meeting. Ms. Berger stated she could put something together. Discussion continued.

At 4:07pm, resident Victor Holt interrupted the meeting and asked if this was the meeting regarding a water leak on Stagecoach Drive. Chairman Erlandsen explained this was a Board of Water Commissioners meeting and if he wanted to make an appointment to speak to the Board about something not on the agenda, he needs to contact Ms. Smith to facilitate. Mr. Holt said "there was a lot of misinformation out there", thanked the board and left the meeting.

Ms. Berger stated Brian Donahoe of the Sewer Commissioners had reached out to her again. He stated Vice Chairman Kostka had recommended he contact her. She did not respond, as she had previously been instructed that any information Mr. Donahoe had to share with the board needed to go through Ms. Smith and Superintendent Veracka. She stated, Mr. Donahoe alluded to having additional knowledge he would like to share with the board and if that was the case, she felt it should be presented to the board directly. Chairman Erlandsen stated any information should be addressed to and forwarded to the office. Vice Chairman Kostka stated he believed it related more to technical information. Commissioner Loring stated that regardless, we've gone through this before and the information should go through the office for record keeping as phone calls are not recorded.

Superintendent Veracka called Chairman Erlandsen's attention to an attendee on Zoom. Resident, Wilder Parkhurst of 20 Stagecoach Drive had just logged on to the meeting. He, too, was under the impression this meeting would discuss a leak on Stagecoach. Chairman Erlandsen suggested he contact Ms. Smith via email or contact the office tomorrow morning, as the board was unaware of any issue.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

QUARTERLY BILLS ARE IN PROCESS AND WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE WEEK.

WATER DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ACTIVELY COORDINATING AND ASSISTING WITH STREETS, TREES AND PARKS RESURFACING PROJECT THROUGHOUT TOWN

WESTON & SAMPSON HAS BEEN IN TOWN CONDUCTING BACKFLOW INSPECTIONS AS CONTRACTED

KWD OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025 SO STAFF MAY ATTEND A MASS WATERWORKS CONFERENCE EVENT

Superintendent Veracka clarified this only affects the office staff. The crew will be here to answer emergency and service calls and perform work as usual.

They've been directed to check the office voicemail for calls that come in during the office staff's absence.

WORKING WITH THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT ON SETTING UP OPEN GOV PERMITTING APPLICATION

Superintendent Veracka stated this application will allow building permitting to be done online. This is a streamlined process and will eliminate a lot of paper.

Also, Superintendent Veracka stated he has contacted another vendor to come in and present some meter options at the next meeting on September 9, 2025 at 4pm.

Superintendent Veracka stated the last two days the department crew has been working on Evergreen St. They responded to repair a leak and while they were there, they discovered a second leak. They were out there today finishing up. He added, the vactor truck has been in use from the Streets, Trees and Parks Department and was a great asset. The gas company marked out an old abandoned gas line and not an active gas line. Superintendent Veracka notified the gas company, and they sent a representative out to identify the issue. The vactor truck allowed the crew to de-water and create a safer excavation at the same time. Discussion continued regarding the vactor truck and it's specific use.

Chairman Erlandsen asked if there was any interest in providing lunch to the department on September 12th. Superintendent Veracka stated he would check with the foreman and coordinate work schedules.

Ms. Smith stated while she was watching the meeting from August 12, 2025, she noticed Vice Chairman Kostka abstained from the vote on the meeting minutes of July 22, 2025, in which he attended and participated via ZOOM. Vice Chairman Kostka stated he was unsure if he had attended that meeting and if that's the case, he would like to change the vote on the meeting minutes of July 22, 2025 from (2-0-1) to (3-0-0).

Commissioner Loring stated the town upgraded its phone system and when you receive a town call, the caller ID reads "K. Hickey". Chairman Erlandsen agreed and said he noticed the same thing. Commissioner Loring said this is unfair to each department who tries to contact residents. It isn't accurate information going out to residents if they want to return a call. For example, he received a phone call yesterday from the Recreation Department and the caller ID stated "K. Hickey." He stated this should be addressed and corrected by the town. Discussion continued regarding issues with the recent phone upgrade.

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NONE

WATER CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAST MEETING:

MEMO TO PAUL ARMSTRONG DATED 8/21/25 RE: 363 BISHOP'S HIGHWAY, MAP 104, LOT 2

BUSINESS OF WATER QUALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

NONE

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

TUESDAY, SEPT 9, 2025 4PM

ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION:

Vice Chairman Kostka made a motion to adjourn. Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion, and it was voted unanimously (3-0-0).

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm

Ms. Smith wanted to confirm a joint meeting for Kingston Water and Kingston Sewer is tabled for the future. Vice

Chairman Kostka stated, Yes, that's kicked down the road a bit.

ZOOM INFORMATION

TOPIC: BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

TIME: THIS IS A RECURRING MEETING

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

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

JOIN INSTRUCTIONS

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/MEETINGS/89052013207/INVITATIONS?SIGNATURE=-YFOYYSJ5YUUK-RNZUM4LHQUFRFBWVEEPURHFIYX-CO](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/89052013207?signature=-YFOYYSJ5YUUK-RNZUM4LHQUFRFBWVEEPURHFIYX-CO)

Respectfully submitted,



Stacey L. Smith
Clerk