

Allan Kent
Chairman



Dean D'Alessandro
Kevin Rudden

TOWN OF MENDON WATER COMMISSION

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DEP Public Water Supply (PWS) ID #217900

mendonma.gov/water

Meeting Date: 6/27/2017

Meeting Location: Water Commission Office, Town Hall, 20 Main St. Mendon

Minutes Approved: 10/6/2017

Members Present: Allan Kent, Dean D'Alessandro, Kevin Rudden

Water Clerk: Dan Byer

Others: Mike Sullivan (customer, 21 Edward), Eric Burkett (White Water)

The meeting was called to order at 11:03am.

The commission met with Mike Sullivan of 21 Edward Rd. to discuss his water bill. His bill was unusually high and did not fit the average usage of the account. The commission discussed and believes there was a mistake in the reading. All agree to reduce the water portion of his bill.

Kevin made a motion to abate 122.58 in water, \$25 in late fees, and \$1.33 interest for 21 Edwards Rd. Dean seconded and all approved.

The commission discussed setting up a standard payment plan for customers. Alan suggests a percentage of the balance. Kevin says they should at least pay something. The commission asks Eric for advice and he says they vary from town to town. The commission agrees that 1/3 is a fair amount. Kevin says we are a small town and should try and work with people when we can. Dan says Jenn (treasurer/collector) suggests we get something in writing from the customer.

The commission met with Eric Burkett of WhiteWater to discuss the proposed new contract for service. Kevin explained the background. Our previous operator, Tim Watson, was employed part time by Mendon and full time in Hopedale. He has giving us 30 days' notice and we now need to find a new certified operator. Eric reviewed the DEP requirements for Mendon. He also discussed the requirements for the Town owned systems. They will require monthly testing. White Water's proposal would include all required monthly testing and any extra or additional tests would be extras. He explained we will need the coliform sampling plans for the 3 systems as well as the public system. Kevin asked about billing and Eric says they would just send 1 invoice for their services. Eric also explained they will fill out our Community Confidence Report and Annual Statistical Report as part of their services. Kevin asked about repair service. Eric says they are not included, they would recommend scheduling 1 day a week to be included in the contract. He explained they have an operator in Franklin and another on the Hopedale/Mendon line. Those operators would be assigned to our contract. Alan asked about

emergencies and Eric explained they have a 24 hour number and a 1 hour maximum response time. He explained they would bill for emergency call-outs with a 2 hour minimum. Kevin explained our set up, we have no real staff or equipment. Eric says they will work with the public safety departments and can offer emergency training. Kevin discussed the meter replacement program. Eric says they can include that as part of the contract or as a per diem rate. Alan asked about repairs. Eric says they work with their parent company, RH White for repairs and they keep an on-call crew for after hours. Kevin asked about authorization and who would provide notice. Eric says they would take immediate action and contact the commissioners as soon as possible. Dan asked about the cross connection surveys and Eric says they can handle them. Dan asked about the Memorial Park seasonal system. Eric says they just need a 7 day minimum notice to open or close the system once they have clean test results.

Kevin asks if they can advise on PWS wells, specifically the possible addition to the Senior Center. Eric says the minimum standard is usually a 100 ft buffer around the well. Moving the well could prove more difficult. The commission agrees they are ready to move forward. Alan asked about the next steps. Eric will try to expedite a contract so they can start on July 1. Kevin says White Water has a very good reputation.

Kevin made a motion to enter into a contract with White Water for operator services for the 3 Town Owned PWS wells for 1 year and to authorize Alan to sign, Dean seconded and all approved.

Kevin made a motion to enter into a contract with White Water for operator services for the Public Water System for 1 year and to authorize Alan to sign, Dean seconded and all approved.

The commission discussed additional services. Eric explained they recommend an annual program to service and inspect hydrants. He will include an option for 40 hours of inspections. This would include a complete inspection, checking the gate valve, pressurizing the hydrant, and greasing. They also recommend leak detection surveys. Kevin asked if we can get a list of common options to review.

The commission discussed the master meters. Kevin asked if Eric has any info on the costs of replacing a master meter. Alan says we believe the size is 6" or 8". Eric says in Norfolk they spent \$12,000 for a new compound meter he thinks. He recommends budgeting \$30,000 for a new pit and meter. Dean asked about reading our existing meter. Eric suggests we offer to replace the register with a digital model. He explained they make web based meters, he thinks a 4" meter is around \$4,200, he's not sure on the price for a 6" meter. That would make it possible to read the meter 24/7 without entering the meter pit.

Dan discussed a request from the owner at 7 Dudley Rd. He is looking to upgrade his meter to a 1 inch. He is having issues with low water pressure and his plumber recommends he get a bigger meter. Kevin says he thinks the meters should be standard. Allan and Dean both stated the meter doesn't change the water pressure so they are confused as to the request. They would like the customer to attend a meeting and discuss in person.

Dan discussed the CCR Report draft. Alan stated there was a spacing issue and Alan and Kevin both emailed a few corrections to Dan. Dan will update and mail.

Kevin stated he will contact Bellingham for an update after July 4th.

Dean made a motion to adjourn, Kevin seconded, all approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30pm