

Allan Kent
Chairman



Kevin Rudden
Matthew O'Brien

TOWN OF MENDON WATER COMMISSION

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DEP Public Water Supply (PWS) ID #217900

mendonma.gov/water

Meeting Date: 8/6/2020

Meeting Location: Remote Meeting via Zoom

Minutes Approved: 1/7/2021

Members Present: Allan Kent, Kevin Rudden,

Water Clerk: Dan Byer

Others:

Absent: Matthew O'Brien

The meeting was called to order at 4.02pm via conference call per the 3/12/20 state COVID-19 Open Meeting Law Amendments.

The commission reviewed the minutes.

Kevin made a motion to approve the minutes of 2/6/20, 3/12/20, 4/2/20, 5/7/20, 7/2/20. Allan seconded and all approved.

The commission discussed the August bills. There was a bill for testing from White Water, the annual service contract from Badger for the meter software, and the cross connection bills. (*All on file in Water Office and Accountant's Office*)

Kevin made a motion to approve the August bills, Allan seconded and all approved.

The commission reviewed the First Quarter billing commitment for \$45,581.03.

Kevin made a motion to approve the FY21Q1 Billing Commitment, Allan seconded and all approved.

The commission discussed the 2020 leak detection. Dan spoke with the company and they can come out in October. All agree to get this done.

The commission discussed the water ban from Hopedale. Dan got an email from Tim about irrigation use on Dudley. Allan said they should have signs if they are watering by wells. The commission discussed sending letters to high users. Kevin suggests cc'ing Hopedale. Dan will put an insert in the next bills reminding people of the water ban.

The commission discussed reorganizing after the election.

Kevin made a motion to re-elect Allan Kent as Chair, Allan stepped down and seconded and all approved.

The commission discussed the need to find a 3rd person interested in running next year. The commissioners are concerned about Matt's lack of attendance. All agree we need a more active member of the board.

There are no new updates related to COVID-19 for the Water Dept. Dan did mention the new payment window for in-person payments at Town Hall.

The commission discussed the FY21 budget. The closing balance of the enterprise fund should be \$14,771.86. Kevin explained we will have our own "free cash" certification when the close the books. Kevin asked about a stabilization fund. He thinks that would allow us to invest our money separate from the general fund. He is going to reach out to someone in Milford for more info.

There are no new updates on the water study committee.

The commission discussed other sources for water including Upton and Bellingham.

Allan asked about the affordable housing well proposed on Providence St. Dan said he thinks it will serve just those houses and the senior center. Kevin suggests we set up a meeting with Bill McHenry to discuss sometime. Water will likely manage this well. Dan thinks we may be able to structure things to make some money off this by selling water to the housing units while maintaining affordability.

Dan updated the board on the Town Hall well pump. There was no success in pulling the pump. McLure believes we can work with DEP to get a new non-conforming well. Dan will follow up with McLure and the Town.

The commissioners discussed the contract with Hopedale. Dan shared his conversations with the developer interested in 35 Cape. All agree we need to meet with Hopedale to discuss our options.

Kevin said he will follow up with Braza on the meter replacements. With COVID things are not happening now.

Dan updated the commission on the issues with the curb stops at 8 Bates and 38 Bates. Both are in-operable and the cost to repair is in excess of \$2,000. He recommends we invest in a pipe freezing tool to allow us to replace the inside shut off valves at a much lower cost. He believes the tool is around \$600. Unfortunately no local plumbers have one. Dan will get pricing.

The commission discussed the valve Dan found in front of 51 Cape. All agree it is likely a gate valve for the system. Dan will have White Water look at it the next time we do valve work.

Dan updated the board on 21 Bates. We sent a letter that they could not split the water connection. The ZBA ultimately voted down this variance request.

Customers & Billing

Kevin made a motion to adjourn at 5:18pm. Allan seconded and all approved.