

Allan Kent  
Chairman



Kevin Rudden  
Matthew O'Brien

## TOWN OF MENDON WATER COMMISSION

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DEP Public Water Supply (PWS) ID #217900

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**Meeting Date: 3/4/2021**

**Meeting Location:** Remote Meeting via Zoom

**Minutes Approved:** 8/5/2021

**Members Present:** Allan Kent, Kevin Rudden, Matthew O'Brien

**Water Clerk:** Dan Byer

**Others:**

**Absent:**

*The meeting was called to order at 7pm via conference call per the 3/12/20 state COVID-19 Open Meeting Law Amendments.*

**Kevin made a motion to approve all the current month's invoices, Matt seconded, all approved.**

The commission discussed the results of the sanitary survey on the public water system. No major issues. DEP is requesting an in house person as the "cross connection program coordinator".

The commission discussed the Town Hall well. The engineer is working on the plans.

No new COVID-19 updates related to water.

The commission discussed the master meters. White Water suggested contracting the job out to a specialist meter company. We are waiting on a new site visit. Dan has not heard back.

The commission discussed the water study. Kevin is working on reaching out to Bellingham.

The commission discussed the water system as a whole and possible expansion. Matt questioned why we want to grow the system at all. He would like to see us shrink the system and people install wells. Dan is working on researching which properties have irrigation wells. Kevin said the fixed costs will increase if we reduce customers. Dan says we are right at the limit of too small that it's not really profitable. If we could add about 20 more customers we'd be in much better shape. Matt says that would be a negative incentive to encourage people to disconnect. Dan wonders if it's possible to terminate the system or DEP would not allow it. Allan said he heard of a subdivision that had a community well but then shut it down and forced residents to dig their own wells so it may be possible to shut it down. Matt says all we have done is discuss expansion and he thinks it's worth discussing the other options too. Matt says he doesn't want to force people off but look at ways to reduce our numbers. Kevin says we need water to try and develop the commercial area on 140. Matt thinks it would be better off just residential and not developing the area further. All agree this should go on a future agenda for a more specific discussion.

The commission discussed updating our master plan and long term plans and will discuss at a future meeting.

The commission discussed the 2020 annual report. Dan will draft and send to the board to review.

The commission discussed possible issues with PFAS testing. Town Hall well has come in over the limit and will require monthly testing at \$300 per sample. Kevin says we should wait until the November STM to address this. There's too much going on with the budget and override right now.

The commission discussed 4 Dudley Rd. Dan shared an email from the resident (**Exhibit A**). The resident paid his bill the check was lost in the mail. He provided proof that he wrote a check. The commission discussed issues with the postal service and agreed to waive the fee. **Matt made a motion to waive the \$25 late fee, Kevin seconded and all approved.**

Dan shared the updated plans for 35 Cape Rd. They are proposing a new hydrant behind the building. Dan wants to know if we need to check with Hopedale? Kevin said as long as they pay the added fee there should be no issues. Allan said he has no issues as long as fire approves.

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:50pm.*