

Allan Kent
Chairman



Vincent Roy
Kevin Rudden

TOWN OF MENDON WATER COMMISSION

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DEP Public Water Supply (PWS) ID #217900

mendonma.gov/water

Meeting Date: 1/12/2023

Meeting Location: Mendon Police Station

Minutes Approved: 2/9/23

Members Present: Allan Kent, Vincent Roy, Kevin Rudden,

Water Clerk: Dan Byer

Others: Jack Hunter, Scott Salvucci

Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 with all 3 commissioners in attendance in person.

Allan made a correction to the 5/5 meeting minutes.

Kevin made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/7/22, 5/5/22, 6/9/22, 8/11/22, 9/1/22, 10/20/22, 12/1/22, Vin seconded, and all approved.

The commissioners signed the bills. Dan said we are waiting on the quarterly Hopedale bill still.

The commission discussed the annual report. Dan will draft it and send for review at the next meeting.

The commission discussed the water study with Jack Hunter. Jack said they are reviewing and hope to have the draft by the end of the month, will have water commission review, then present to both water and the selectboard.

Jack reviewed the funding. We got a \$150k one stop grant from the state for phase 2 and we got a 3rd 100K grant/earmark from the state that will cover phase 2 of the project to do more detailed analysis on the recommendations in phase 1. Phase 2 would likely be another year. Water was not aware, Kevin thinks Brian Murray probably put in for it. Scott will get us a proposal for phase 2 soon.

Kevin asked if water will get an advance copy of the report to review, Jack said yes. All discussed the process. There will be a public presentation and we will need to discuss preferred options.

Kevin asked about sewer. The state legislative deadline is approaching if we want to submit anything to create a sewer commission which we don't currently have. Jack isn't sure, said that should be part of the recommendations in the study on the best path forwards.

Jack said he is happy with the progress so far. Scott joined the meeting. He reviewed the progress to date. Phase 1 looked at both drinking water and sewer. Phase 2 will have an option to dig further into sewer. Scott said they are including the implementation and phasing of the work to make it achievable; this is not a report that will just sit on the shelf. Kevin wants to talk about assigning costs early in the process. Jack said we will need a detailed financial analysis to figure all that out including possible betterments and funding sources.

Scott said they are very close. Next step will be to get together and review, get more confidence in the options and talk about scheduling. Dan asked about the process, can water review before this goes public. Kevin said it can be sent to board members for comment, but they cannot reply all, just to Dan who can collect comments. Kevin suggested there be a specific meeting dedicated to this presentation with specific action items.

Vin asked if there were any surprises that had come up when talking to other towns. Scott said not really, the feedback was fairly consistent, they don't have enough water for themselves and can't supply Mendon. Perhaps there's value in building capacity in Mendon to help others. Vin asked about past studies, Scott said they got good info on what was explored and a sense of low and medium yield aquifers. As part of phase 2 we would look to build confidence in those areas and collect more data.

Vin asked about phase 2. Scott said they have put together a draft proposal for \$250K to maximize the value from grants. This would include test wells, fieldwork, and modeling. Also, a financial capability assessment and bring that all together for Phase 2. Vin asked if it was enough, Scott thinks so depending on far the town wants to explore wastewater too. Kevin asked about the local ARPA funds, Jack said he was told by Kim it is reserved for water and this project. Scott said there will be more grant opportunities too. Kevin said we need to allocate the funds by 2024 and use by 2026. Scott said they are cognizant of the timeline and not stopping before we have substantial designs. This report will not just sit on the shelf. All agree.

Kevin said we have an opportunity to fund without going to Town meeting. There may be more federal money for infrastructure and future developments that could partner with Mass Works grants. Lots of opportunity on Rt 16 and Rt 140 for future discussion.

Jack asked if Phase 2 would include testing for PFAS, Scott said test wells would get that data.

The board discussed meeting dates. Kevin said this should not be a 5 min discussion at the end of a budget hearing. It needs to be it's own meeting as this is a substantial and important discussion for the town. Jack said he will follow up with Kim.

Vin thanked Scott for participating. Kevin and Vin appreciate all Jack has done to involve water. Scott thanked the team and Dan for all his help. Kevin said Dan is paid for 5 hours but works 50. Allan is very interested in seeing the report.

Scott and Jack left at 7:50.

Dan reviewed the proposals for the Dudley Rd master meter replacement. We got a price of \$11670 from Thielsch Engineering, \$5,500 from Hydra-Tech, and EJP was unable to quote the project. All agree Hydra-Tech is the best option.

Kevin made a motion to approve the estimate from Hydra-Tech for the Dudley Rd master meter replacement and authorize Chair Allan Kent to sign, Vin seconded and all approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm