



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

3 North Main Street . P.O. Box 438 . Assonet, MA 02702

508.644.4000 . Fax: 508.644.2053

Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 1.5.22

Meeting held at Town Hall, Assonet, MA

1:00PM Meeting called to order by Bob Parker
Members present: Bob Parker; Paul Sadeck
Staff present: Steven Chandler; Keven Desmarais
Guest: Deborah Pettey, Town Administrator

Meeting being audio recorded by Paul Sadeck and Steven Chandler

Position of Data Acquisition and Infrastructure Maintenance

- Bob Parker states applications have been received by the Town Administration office. He does not see any candidates that meet the requirements. Chandler did not see any that meet requirements.
- Deb Pettey received a new application.
- Paul Sadeck left the meeting and did not participate in discussion because the applicant is his son-in-law.
- The applicant's name is David Thibodeau, and he is currently working in the natural gas industry. He has worked and understands the needs of a utility company for many years. The FW&SC and Town Administrator will interview him; Deb Pettey will schedule the interview.
- Discussion of salary and to increase the hourly rate from \$23.00 to \$25.00 per hour. Bob Parker states having WhiteWater do all the daily tasks of the in-house person, which is above and beyond their contract, would cost more at \$75.00 per hour.
- Keven Desmarais states that with one in-house operator doing daily operations the FW&SC is already stretched thin so currently having the added benefit of a contract with WhiteWater as back up works out. There could be need for two in-house people plus WhiteWater in future.
- To change a salary for any union position it must go through the employee's union.

Other business that properly came before the Board that was not anticipated:

Discussion of ARPA Funding for Meter Replacement Project

- Deb Pettey will continue to work on securing funding for this project.

Discussion of Abatement

- Keven Desmarais thinks the meter at 27 Braley Road may be acting up. Suddenly, her reads went from her normal quarterly usage of 15-18 units to a high read of 84 units and then back down to normal usage. There is no leak based on an interrogation of the meter and Keven could not determine a reason.
- Paul Sadeck makes a motion to abate this bill by 66 units at \$500.94. Bob Parker 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sign Bills

- Bob and Paul signed bills.

Paul Sadeck motion to adjourn at 2:03. Bob Parker 2nd. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Chandler

Senior Clerk

Freetown Water & Sewer Commission