



WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

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2016 JUL 28 AM 9:48 *gab*

Minutes of the Water & Sewer Commission meeting 07/1/2016

10:00AM	Meeting called to order by Bob Parker
Members present:	Bob Parker; Brad Paiva; Paul Sadeck
Staff present:	Keven Desmarais; Steven Chandler
Guest:	Ryan Trahan, Environmental Partners Group

Bob Parker called the meeting to order at 10:05AM

Discussion with Ryan regarding filter site and valve that needs to be replaced.

- He refers to submitted proposal/study from 2006.
- The location of replacement, how valve will operate, and infrastructure needed.
- In August, State DEP will be looking for strict timelines associated with filter site proposal.
- Ryan will have final filter site design to review in late July.

Discussion of relocating filter site.

- Land needed for site is at least one acre.
- What would it entail and how much would it cost?
- Would require a vote by town residents to use funding.
- If land is given or leased to Town for site use, a letter from land owner would be needed.
- Once all of this is complete, then determine what it would take to do the project, what size is needed, what kind of flow is needed, and then EPG can generate a new plan with cost assessment.
- Discussion of land options.

Discussion of digging a well for Town's own water source.

- This would allow Town to be self-sufficient and use water from Fall River if needed for an emergency.
- Initial cost would be greater than relocating the filter site but in the long run could be a better option.
- Cost for water would end up being far less than purchasing water.
- Long term benefits would be greater than immediate cost.
- Need to own the Zone 1 around the well, 250-400 foot radius.
- Possibly use Conservation owned land to put a well site.
- Water system would need to include a holding tank. This would be beneficial should a fire require a large amount of water.
- Down side is if water sample from a well tests poorly, the cost would be tripled from putting in just a treatment plant and using water from Fall River. Would need a treatment plant, tanks, well installation, etc.
- This option requires doing 2 or 3 test wells and then sample and test water to determine if a well is a viable option.
- Can test for a well as close to existing water line as possible.
- This option goes along with looking at long term growth of Town and future generations.

- There is a well at the current filter site with water bubbling out 365 days a year. But, this is too close to the highway and a half mile radius is needed.
- This option is a 3-5 year process from time of doing test wells to putting a pump station online.
- Ryan can update the aquifer overlay to map to determine where water is available within Assonet for potential well and will revisit this idea.
- Brad makes a motion to have Ryan update the aquifer overlay to map. Paul 2nd. All in favor.

Ryan leaves meeting at 10:58.

Discussion of Fall River and New Bedford water bills.

- Paul suggests contacting both and request data sent as electronic file so that it can be dumped into Excel format and Chandler won't have to type up all the info.

Discussion of customers with filters.

- Three customers were sent letters. One of them do not want the filter changed and will not give Keven access. One made apt. but did not answer door when Keven arrived. She then called Chandler and said that she wants to speak with her husband first. One we have not heard back from.
- Freetown Water & Sewer Commission owns the filters and meters. They need to be changed.
- Have the attorney for Town prepare a document for any of these three customers, who do not want to give access, to sign releasing the Town from liability.
- If customer won't sign, write on the document that they will not sign and why.

Discussion of contacting Fall River and New Bedford regarding water bills.

- Bob spoke with John Fryer at Fall River and said he'd contact him when we have all the information regarding billing history so we know where we are.
- Bob hasn't spoken to New Bedford, he doesn't know who to contact.

Chandler presents Kim Fales idea of Commissioners signing off on a Fiscal Year long purchase order for City of Fall River so that each time a bill comes in a separate PO does not have to be created. Since we have a contracted purchase this makes the most sense. Commissioners all agree and sign.

Sign bills.

Paul Sadeck makes motion to approve minutes from June 17, 2016. Bob 2nd. All in favor.

Chandler presents rules and regulations from the State of MA as pertains to billing and termination of water service.

Brad Paiva makes a motion to approve \$24 abatement for Sheila Lopes. Bob 2nd. All in favor.

Paul Sadeck makes motion to adjourn meeting. Brad Paiva 2nd. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be Friday, June 15, 2016 at 9:30AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Chandler
Senior Clerk, Freetown Water & Sewer Commission