

## BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 13, 2023, at the Water Department office

PRESENT WERE: Board of Water Commissioners, Chairman Bassett, Commissioner Stephen Whitmore, and Commissioner David Mason. Also present: Superintendent Sean Anderson, Precinct 1 Town Councilor Gordan Star and District Resident Steve Rizzo.

- Meeting called to order at 2:30 PM
- Warrants to be signed.
- Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to accept the April 11, 2023; minutes as written. The **motion was seconded** by Commissioner Mason and passed unanimously.

### REQUEST FOR AN ABATEMENT AT 259 MIDPINE ROAD

- Homeowner Robert Goldstein requesting a water abatement due to the color of his Indoor Pool.
- Mr. Goldstein claims that it was from the Hydrant Flushing.
- Pool was drained and painted and refilled on 4/29
- Submitted two photos: In photo 1 the water is green/algae looking and in photo 2 the water of what the pool color typically looks like.
- Superintendent Anderson, who has over 30 years of experience, said we are not in the business of providing green water one day and clear water the next. When flushing the water may be brown not green.
- Superintendent Anderson spoke to Mr. Goldstein and just explained the facts to him.
- Mr. Goldstein did threaten to hire an attorney and go to the press.
- Mr. Whitmore **motioned** not to request the abatement. The **motion was seconded** by Commissioner Mason and not passed.
- Mr. Whitmore said he will meet Mr. Goldstein at the office if he wants to discuss it further.

### COLA RAISES FY 2024

- Superintendent Anderson asked the board to increase the wages by 3% which is already in the budget for fiscal 2024.
- 10% increase for Assistant Superintendent representative of the 3% and the promotion of 7%. If he gets further certifications he will earn more.
- Recommended that Dawn's hours be increased by 25%. This will allow for more training and office coverage and will allow Sean to get out in the district more.
- Commissioner Mason **motioned** to recommend the 3% of COLA increase. The **motion was seconded** by Commissioner Whitmore.

### CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

- New Chemical Feed Building at Well 1 along with the thanks to the Chief and Deputy Chief for attending a virtual meeting with the state appeals board. That had a huge impact for getting appeals board to approve it.
- System Flushing was a success.
- Lead & Copper collected 40 samples and two schools (BWB and Trinity). Waiting for the rest of the results.
- No detect in lead for either of the schools
- New treatment Plant Design is at 30% Design
- County Chemical Cooperative numbers KOH went down 2.6% cost wise. Chlorine went up 16.6%
- Superintendent Anderson had a virtual meeting with Tighe & Bond the Engineering Firm doing the culvert crossing project. Tighe & Bond said there is a lot of support for this project because of the sidewalks. Want to get going on our portion of it. Money was spent by voters for the design to piggyback on this project for design and getting bids for this work.

Chairman Bassett wants to turn the chair over to Commissioner David Mason. Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to accept Evelyn's resignation as the Chairperson of the committee and David be elected new Chairman.

Chairman Mason **motioned** to adjourn the public session and go into executive session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personal (i.e. Water Superintendent). The meeting will reconvene to open session and members polled were Chairman David Mason, Commissioner Evelyn Bassett, and Commissioner Stephen Whitmore were all in favor of going into Executive Session. All non-water Commissioners were asked to leave during the Executive Session. The discussion was about wage increase and vacation allowance.

Chairman Mason reopened the public session. Superintendent Anderson was brought back into the meeting to outline the salary increase from 95,500. to \$100,500. Plus, the 3% COLA increase. Superintendent Anderson asked that another week be added to his vacation time from 3 weeks to 4 weeks he had 4 when he was in Scituate and uses a lot of his vacation time to go to kid events. Commissioner Whitmore **moved** to increase Superintendents vacation time from 3 to 4 weeks annually. Chairman Mason applauded Superintendent Anderson for his cost savings and exceeding the expectations of the Superintendent job.

Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to adjourn the Executive Session. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dawn H. Woodward*