

## **BFD BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**

July 9, 2019 AT THE WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

PRESENT WERE: Board of Water Commissioners: Chairman David Jones and Commissioner Bassett, and Commissioner Whitmore. Also present: Superintendent Thomas Rooney.

- Meeting called to order at 2:30 P.M.
- Warrants and payrolls signed.
- Collectors End of Month Report reviewed and signed
- Superintendent's Projects Report reviewed

Chairman Jones informed the Board that he would like to open the Meeting with a presentation by Hyannis Water Systems Manager Hans Keijser. Mr. Keijser presented the Board with a report submitted to the Town of Barnstable Water Supply Division, by Weston and Sampson Engineers, entitled New Sources Alternatives Evaluation Report. Mr. Keijser discussed the water contamination problems that have required the installation of carbon filtration. He discussed the production shortages which created the need for Hyannis Water Systems to buy water from neighboring water systems. Chairman Jones asked Mr. Keijser which systems are supplying water? Mr. Keijser informed the Board that Hyannis Water System is receiving water from Centerville Osterville Marstons Mills Water Department, and from the Town of Yarmouth Water Supply Division. Keijser stated that that Hyannis will be installing additional treatment to existing wells in order to eliminate the need to purchase water. Chairman Jones asked Mr. Keijser what wells cannot be used? Mr. Keiser informed the Board that the three wells at the Maher Wellfield are not being used. The Airport well, and Straightway #1, are not being used. He stated that Straightway #2 was being used on a very limited basis. He went on to say that the Village of Hyannis has been built up to the point that Hyannis Water System will have to look elsewhere for new sources of supply for drinking water. Chairman Jones asked if the carbon filtration worked well. Keijser responded that after filtration that the water is "Non-Detect" for PFAS chemicals.

Keijser informed the Board that the proposal by MassDEP to lowered the PFAS standard to 20 parts per trillion would make the situation for Hyannis worse. Commission Bassett asked what is the rationale for lowering of the containment limits? Keijser informed the Board that PFAS chemicals create a health risk to pregnant women, infants and nursing mothers. PFAS chemicals cause damage to endocrine systems, thyroid glands, and they can cause certain forms of cancers. Keijser stated that the Hyannis Water Systems is seeking 3 million dollars for additional treatment to get existing wells by next summer. Commissioner Whitmore asked how much the treatment systems cost. Mr. Keijser informed the board that a pair of carbon filters is about four hundred thousand dollars. He went on to say that the total cost for an enclosed unit is over a million dollars.

Supervisor Keijser informed the Board the Town of Barnstable bought Barnstable Water in 2005, and that he has been managing the system since then. He stated the system is old and in need of repairs. He went on to say that there is 100 miles of piping, 12 wells, four above ground water storage tanks, and two below ground tanks that have just been completed. He stated that the tanks are baffled to increase chlorine contact time.

Supervisor Keijser stated that water is the next most important element after air. Keijser stated that, "If you don't have water then you can't have a functioning village. He discussed the financial difficulties caused by the additional costs of treatment needed to address the lowered contaminant standards. He discussed Keijser informed the Board that Hyannis has become an urban area, and the ground water is being affected by PFAS, 1-4 Dioxane, Volatile Organic Chemicals, and Nitrates. He went on to say that Hyannis Water System has an Iron and Manganese problem requiring treatment. Keijser discussed the methods of removing contaminants. He stated that water chemistry can be a tricky thing to manage.

Supervisor Keijser described the governance structure of Hyannis Water Systems and the make-up of his Board of Water Commissioners. He discussed the sites identified in the New Sources Report. The sites were evaluated by Weston and Sampson Engineers, and each site was given a score. The most advantageous site is a nearly 300 acre parcel located North of Route 6 adjacent Hyannis Golf Course. Mr. Keijser discussed the process of testing for groundwater quality and production capacity at the sites. He discussed the water system infrastructure owned by the Fire District adjacent to some of the sites.

Supervisor Keijser asked the Board if they had any questions or concerns. Commissioner Bassett stated that she was concerned about the supply for the District. Mr. Keijser informed the Board that there will be many issues to be resolved, and that it will take a long time to develop new sources. Keijser stated that the Town is planning for the next fifty or one hundred years, and he suggested that the Fire District do the same. Chairman Jones and the Commissioners thanked Supervisor Keijser for his informative presentation.

### **End of Fiscal 2019 Budget Review**

Superintendent Rooney reported that the Water Department Operations Balances would come in on budget for the year.

### **Capital Projects Update**

Superintendent Rooney reported that the gate project was complete. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the Department is waiting for the ROV Warranty Inspection of the interior of the tanks. He went on to say that he was holding the final payment until the inspection results are received.

### **Public Records Request**

Superintendent Rooney reported that the District's Counsel Charles Sabatt indicated that the District should provide information when requested. Mr. Rooney presented a form created by Water Department Collector based upon the recommendations made by attorney Sabatt. The form will require the requestor to state the reason for the request, and the requestor's relationship to the property. After a review of the form, Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to adopt the use of the new form, **seconded** by Commissioner Bassett. The **motion passed unanimously.**

**Water Department Staff Performance Review**

Chairman Jones suggested that the Performance Reviews be postponed until the next Board Meeting. He asked the Superintendent to provide copies of the reviews to the Board members prior to the next Meeting.

**Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair**

Collector Vermette presented the Board with additional information regarding 75 Indian Hill Road. The home owner was concerned that she was doubled billed due to a pinched wire on radio remote. Ms. Vermette verified that the customer was not doubled billed, and that the bill is correct. She also discussed the fact the Serviceperson Wood had observed a leaking outside faucet. After a review of the details of the request the Board of Water Commissioners declined the request. Commissioner Whitmore asked the Collector to write a letter to the homeowner to explain the circumstances of the Board's decision.

There being no further business, Chairman Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to adjourn the meeting, **seconded** by Commissioner Bassett. The **motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Thomas Rooney*