

Groton Water Commission  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners  
Tuesday, January 26, 2016  
Groton Town Hall

**Minutes**

Present are BOWC's Chair David Crocker, Vice Chair James Gmeiner, Member John McCaffrey, Water Superintendent Thomas Orcutt and Business Manager April Iannacone.

Mr. Crocker called the regular BOWC meeting to order promptly at 7:30 pm.

**Calendar Year 2015 Annual Report:**

Mr. Orcutt informed the Commissioners that he had completed the annual report for the department for 2015. He requested the Commissioners review and comment for him on any changes they would like before it is submitted. The Commissioners were all in agreement that the report was good to submit as drafted.

**Whitney Pond Well #1 – Cleaning Project:**

Mr. Orcutt gave a brief update of the completed Whitney Well cleaning. All aspects of the project went smoothly, and Mr. Orcutt believed that the result was better than expected due to the surging of the well that had to be done in September.

**Spring 2016 Town Meeting – Warrant Open:**

Mr. Orcutt informed the Commissioners that he had prepared an article to submit to the Town Manager for the Spring Town Meeting Warrant. This article is the standard placeholder for a transfer from the Enterprise Reserve Funds to supplement the current fiscal year operating budget if needed.

**Superintendent Update:**

Mr. Orcutt led a brief discussion of the topics on his Superintendents Report to update them on the status of the office and well operations, upcoming projects and reports, and answered any questions they had.

**Other Business:**

Mr. McCaffrey informed the other Commissioners that in light of the water crisis going on in Flint Michigan, he had received a few questions with regard to how the Groton Water Department was protecting the public water supply from the lead and copper issues. He believed it would be helpful if all Commissioners had a solid understanding of our processes, testing protocol and remediation procedures. Mr. Orcutt explained the process for testing as well as how sample sites were chosen. Mr. Crocker asked what the PH level the department kept the water at. Mr. Orcutt replied that the water was kept at 7.5 to 7.7. Mr. McCaffrey then asked the other Commissioners their feelings on getting out in front of the issue and any questions by making a public statement regarding lead and copper issues and how the department monitors the situation. Mr. Crocker and Mr. Gmeiner believed that there was no need to make any kind of public statement at this time as there had not been that many inquiries with regard to the issue. Mr. Crocker stated that he would be agreeable to putting a statement on the website for people who may turn to the website looking for information on the subject. Mr. Orcutt stated that the majority of the questions are coming from being uninformed and seeing dirty water. They are associating the iron and manganese with the

lead and copper. Most people believe that the lead and copper are coming from the source wells and are not aware that this is a home issue and corrosion control. The Commissioners requested Mr. Orcutt draft an informational letter for them to review at their next meeting that could be added to the website for informational purposes.

**Minutes:**

There were no minutes presented for approval at this meeting.

**Bills:**

The bills presented to the Board were all signed and submitted for payment.

Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Mr. McCaffrey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

April Iannacone  
Business Manager

James Gmeiner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

David Crocker \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

John McCaffrey \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_