

Groton Water Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Of the  
Board of Water Commissioners  
Tuesday, May 7th, 2019  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lunch Room

**Minutes**

Present are Chairman Jack McCaffrey, Vice Chairman Greg Fishbone, Member James Gmeiner, Superintendent Thomas Orcutt, and Business Manager Lauren Crory.

Mr. McCaffrey called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

37 Boathouse Rd – Abatement Request

Mr. Gmeiner explained the abatement request to Mr. Fishbone who was not at the previous meeting. Mr. Black is representing the estate and does not want the letter to state that we will collect the balance due once probate is complete on the estate. Mr. McCaffrey said Mr. Black would like the letter to say that we will collect the balance once the property is sold because that is the only time she will be able to afford it. Mr. McCaffrey thinks we should change it to read that the department will collect the balance at the sale of the property or within two years of the letter. Mr. Fishbone thinks that two years is a reasonable amount of time to close an estate. Mr. Gmeiner asked if we will abate the interest after the two years is up and we would not. Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to delay the collection of the balance due until the property is sold or two years from the date of the letter, whichever is sooner. Accrued interest during that time will be abated. Mr. McCaffrey seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Water Conservation Program – Well Levels & Pumping Levels

Mr. Orcutt reviewed the well level graphs and said there was a slight tick up in water levels. Mr. Fishbone asked if we were expecting it and Mr. Orcutt said we were, but it was slow to react. Mr. Orcutt also spoke about pumping data that he recorded while emptying the tank and refilling. He recorded data from three days of pumping in April which showed that it took about 12-13 hours to fill an empty tank while pumping 625-675 gallons per minute. Mr. Orcutt thinks that Whitney Well I can pump more and that Whitney Well II maxed out at 250 gallons per minute. Mr. McCaffrey would like to know the pumping speeds and the maximum output. Mr. McCaffrey asked if we could presume the maximum to be about 750-800 gallons per minute and Mr. Orcutt said yes. This would be equivalent to about 864,000 gallons per day. Mr. Orcutt noted that DEP does not like to see the gallons per day exceed 1 million.

Budget – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financials / FY Budget 2020 / Spring TM Transfers

Mrs. Crory reviewed the current financials and estimated that we would be able to return about \$50,000 to reserves from the budget. Along with this, we will be getting \$63,000 leftover from the Whitney Well project and \$40,000 from our energy grant transferred to the enterprise fund. We still have large

expenses coming up including two intergovernmental bills, license stipends, and Mr. Brackett's vacation time payout.

Other Business

Mr. Orcutt discussed an award the department received for energy conservation. Mr. Orcutt reviewed our electricity use over the past few years and noted that we pumped more in 2018 but used less electricity. Mr. McCaffrey would like us to submit an article about the award to the Groton Herald.

Mr. McCaffrey approved the minutes of April 23<sup>rd</sup> as amended, Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McCaffrey approved the minutes of April 9<sup>th</sup> as amended, Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Invoices for Expense Warrant 24.

Next Meetings: May 21<sup>st</sup> (if needed) and June 11<sup>th</sup>

Mr. McCaffrey made a motion to adjourn at 8:22pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Crory  
Business Manager