

Groton Water Commission
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Water Commissioners
Tuesday, June 24th, 2021
Virtual Meeting using Zoom

Minutes

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

Mr. Fishbone called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Manganese Treatment Plant – progress update, revised schedule

Mr. Orcutt met with the engineers and three filter vessels should produce 1300 gallons / minute plus another 200 gallons / minute so there will be plenty of capacity. This amount is three times our current permit withdrawal limit. Mr. Fishbone said it sounds like the vessels are sized correctly. Mr. Orcutt will be having a Zoom Meeting with Mass DEP to review the backwash plan. The underdrain system will be discussed because Environmental Partners uses this strategy often. We will need slightly bigger lagoons.

Whitney Well III – progress update, schedule

Mr. Orcutt said the pump tests for Whitney Well III will be in July instead of August.

Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget – Transfers, Encumbrances

Mrs. Crory presented a forecasted FY2021 year-end budget and predicts a significant increase in our cash reserves which is made up of income, underspending expenses, and returning transferred funds. The amount will be reduced when we take out “manganese fee income” in the fall.

Mrs. Crory has one encumbrance of \$40 for a June Century Bank bill. Mr. Orcutt would like to ask about encumbering \$50,000 that was transferred out of the E&D fund at Spring Town Meeting for Manganese expenses.

Rate Revenue Discussion

Mr. Orcutt said rates will be an ongoing process that will continue to be discussed. We will plan on a rate hearing in the fall to look in depth at numbers.

Redskin Trail/Boathouse Rd Water Main Extensions- Update

Mr. Orcutt sent a letter to the residents with cost information. He thinks they should designate a few people to lead this process if they want to move forward. There are two interested residents on Boathouse so it may be cost prohibited.

Other Business: Budget, Bills, Minutes, Meeting Schedule

The next meeting will be July 13th, 2021.

Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to adjourn at 8:11pm, Mr. Fishbone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Crory