

Groton Water Commission
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Water Commissioners
Tuesday, July 27th, 2021
Virtual Meeting using Zoom

Minutes

Present are Chairman Jack McCaffrey, Member James Gmeiner, and Business Manager Lauren Crory, Dave Patangia from Environmental Partners.

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

Manganese Treatment Plant – progress update, revised schedule

Mr. Patangia said the project continues to be ahead of schedule and the Mass DEP meeting on June 19th went well. They completed a virtual and onsite meeting with the Planning Board, Stormwater Management permit is being discussed, Environmental Partners prepared a letter on the town's behalf for the extension on Mass DEP approval. The feedback from GELD has been good. The 75% design package to be submitted to the Board on the 10th. Mr. Gmeiner asked about the site walk and Mr. Patangia said it went well. Mrs. Collette was concerned that the treatment plant may be held up due to Whitney Well III work. Mr. McCaffrey said the upcoming pump tests will help us with Whitney Well III and then can coordinate more. Mr. Patangia met with CEI already about incorporating the layouts. Mr. McCaffrey asked if we consider a battery instead of generator and Mr. Patangia said that standby power is a Mass DEP requirement and he has never heard of battery back up for a treatment plant. Building is being designed for solar panels in the future. Mr. McCaffrey said if there is any precedent or ways to do this to let us know. Mr. Gmeiner thinks we would only get up to three days max out of battery power which may be an issue if we had a bad ice storm etc. Mr. McCaffrey said the Town might ask us about this at some point. Mr. McCaffrey asked when we should hear from Mass DEP about the extension. Mr. Patangia spoke with someone at Mass DEP and they didn't act like it was a big deal and believes we should hear quickly. Mr. McCaffrey asked what would happen if the extension doesn't get approved and Mr. Patangia said we would submit it on the current deadline but it wouldn't be as detailed.

Whitney Pond Well #3 – progress update, schedule

Mr. McCaffrey said the pump tests will begin next week and asked Mrs. Crory to make sure the operators are going to monitor the effect on the current wells.

Redskin Trail/Boathouse Road Water Main Extension – Update

Mrs. Crory said there has been some traction on the interest for a Boathouse Road water main extension. We sent out information and one resident is obtaining quotes from contractors.

Other Business: budget, bills, minutes, meeting schedule

Mr. Gmeiner asked Mrs. Crory to update manganese spreadsheet to current income/expenses to date.

Mrs. Crory said its too early to see much but the first FY21 billing cycle has been standard to previous years.

Mrs. Crory said the FY21 forecast was good and the free cash estimate should improve because the manganese bills originally paid out of the regular budget were moved by the Town Accountant because our borrowed funds were received on June 30th.

Mr. Gmeiner made motion to adjourn at 8:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Crory