



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District

Water Department

4300 FALMOUTH ROAD, P. O. BOX 451
COTUIT, MASS. 02635

04/18/2018

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held at Freedom Hall at 6:00 p.m. Chairman Don Campbell, Commissioner Vic Mastro and Commissioner Tom Hoppensteadt were present as was Superintendent Chris Wiseman.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. There was no public comment.

The commissioners reviewed and approved the minutes from the March 21, 2018 regular meeting and the April 11, 2018 special meeting. The commissioners then reviewed and signed the warrants. They discussed the communication from the treasurer regarding the authorization of warrants. The commissioners agreed that in accordance with the Water Department By-Laws they would continue to review and authorize the warrants before they are submitted to the District Treasurer for payment.

Superintendent Wiseman gave the water quality report, noting that all routine coliform samples for March were clear, however, he had received a phone call from the lab regarding the April 17th sample at Station 3. The source will be resampled on the 19th and he will inform the commissioners of the results. (Note: Subsequent tests were all negative for total coliform.)

Commissioner Mastro asked if it was possible to receive a 10-year comparison by month on pumpage. The office manager will provide one for the next meeting.

Mr. Wiseman then went on to give the Superintendent's report.

Monthly Pumpage Results is as follows:

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>+/-</u>
March	6,019,000	8,750,000	-2,731,000

March Stats:

March 2018 had 2" more rain than March 2017.

No new service installations, no replacement services.

Atty. Michael Pearce is reviewing the latest revisions to the Water Department Handbook which should be complete by the end of the month.

Valley Communications has installed the cabinets at the pumping stations and the main office which will house the equipment for both the security system. The next step will be for CommTract to complete the installation of the fiber optic cable.

TowerNorth will be conducting a walk through on Tuesday with contractors.

The Superintendent has received 3 bids for surveyors to mark the property boundaries. GreenSeal was the lowest bidder, the time-frame for completion is unknown at this time. Commissioner Campbell wants to ensure that the items for the district meeting are taken care of before this project is given additional attention. The department will notify the property abutters before the project commences.

The shed located on the 414 Main Street district property has not yet been moved. The homeowner has returned to Cotuit and Superintendent Wiseman will follow up with him to ensure the shed is moved.

Superintendent Wiseman gave an update on the Chemical Safety project, noting that the well at station #2 has been cleaned, the well at station #1 has been removed for cleaning and that there are two pending change orders for the project. The opening to the well at station #1 is too small and they will need to expand the core (\$4,000) and a motor, which are more than 50 years old, and two pumps will need to be replaced (\$12,000 ea.) plus a disposal fee. Change orders received to date are in the ballpark of \$35,000 and are covered in the contingency portion of the proposal from Tata & Howard.

The first meeting with Tata & Howard regarding the Cost of Service and Water Rate Study will be held on Friday, April 20th at 1pm. They will review the request for information and questions from the treasurer regarding the study. According to the T&H timeline the project is on schedule to be completed by the end of June. The commissioners discussed capital improvement recommendations for the next five years and coordinating water main repairs or replacements with the Town of Barnstable Highway Division. Mr. Wiseman will contact Joe Orchiuch regarding a 5-year plan for the town.

Commissioner Hoppensteadt referenced an article with the headline of "Expect to Pay More for your Water" that was published in the Cape Cod Enterprise for Chatham and Harwich. Should our district need to implement a treatment plant for iron and manganese or have additional space requirements the same issues would hold true for our district. He also asked the superintendent if there were any standard operating procedures for replacing aged equipment, pipes, hydrants, etc.

Mr. Wiseman notified the board that the water tank cleaning will begin during the first part of June.

Fiscal Year 19 proposed budget was discussed. Commissioner Campbell informed the Prudential Committee that the water department would be going forward with the one-time compensation adjustment for the department employees, the special appropriation for the truck (\$60,000) and the security system (\$470,000).

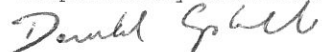
Commissioner Mastro will be making the presentation at the budget and candidates night on May 15th.

Commissioner Mastro reintroduced the topic of a capital stabilization fund. The fund as provided for in the by-laws was not set up as it should have been. Mr. Mastro worked with the assistant treasurer of the Town of Mashpee, Dawn Thayer, who provided information from the Mass General Law noting that with approval from 50% of the Prudential Committee a separate fund can be set up and earmarked for a specific use. The use can be broad or narrow in scope and funding for the account needs to be designated in advance. Expenses paid from the account would require a 2/3 approval from the Prudential Committee. Commissioner Mastro went on to discuss some examples of revenue sources and fund uses and noted that this type of planning could take some of the "sting" out of the annual appropriation requests to the district. The board will work towards coming up with a proposal for the Prudential Committee and the Treasurer.

Lastly, Superintendent Wiseman informed the board of a possible litigation regarding the water quality at 54 Roosevelt Road. The homeowner has had issues with manganese and dirty water despite several side line replacements, semi-monthly service flushing and a carbon filter. An update will be provided when more information is learned.

The next regular meeting of the board was set for Wednesday, May 16th at 6:00 p.m. at Freedom Hall. A reminder was given that the Civic Association will meet for Budgets & Candidates Night on May 15th and the Annual District Meeting will be held on Wednesday May 30th. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald Campbell, Chairman