

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES

Date: May 24, 2023
Time: 10:00 AM
Place: Via Zoom Meeting & Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the meeting in person were Selectboard Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Board member Mary Brazie, Water Clerk William Brinker and Water Operator Nate Stalker. There were no attendees present via zoom.

The meeting was audio and video recorded.

MINUTES:

The Board accepted the minutes of the April 24 meeting with minor edits.

REORGANIZATION:

The Commissioners organized as follows:
Chairman: George McGurn
Vice-Chairman: Lucinda Vermeulen
Recording Secretary: Mary Brazie

NEW BUSINESS:

Water Clerk Will Brinker presented a draft of the proposed Water Department rules and regulations, including an application and contract for services. The Commission would like the document finalized by July 1. Legal Counsel will be asked to review.

Lead and cooper testing was completed. Testing currently has to be done twice yearly due to previous levels that exceeded the allowable level. Will Brinker will see if it's possible to go back to once a year testing as our levels have remained very low. These tests are also used to monitor the PH system that was installed about 4 years ago.

OLD BUSINESS:

The water main replacement project is moving quickly from both ends of Main Street. The loop around the green and the area between the culvert and the Great Barrington town line will be done last. The Commissioners reported that an agreement was reached with MassDOT to move the hydrants from in the sidewalk to the backside of the sidewalk.

The property owners at 127 Mount Washington have complained that some pipe was left on their property and shrubs removed during the capping of the old water main. Water Department employees will bring this issue to a resolution.

No action has been taken on past due accounts. The Commissioners directed Will Brinker to confer with legal counsel to get a lien put on the Ferguson property for the outstanding amount of over \$6,400 as soon as possible. A letter of non-payment with a shut-off notice will be sent immediately to all other accounts that are more than a month past due.

Notice has been sent to all users about the upcoming rate increase.

Clerk Will Brinker said that he has reached out to the Department of Environmental Protection regarding the Town's search for a Water Operator trainee. They had no solution but did suggest sending a letter to local plumbers and tech schools. Will said he has spoken with the Greenagers who won't be starting their internship program until the end of Summer 2023. Mary Brazie reported that the position has been posted with MasHire who promotes jobs nationwide for no charge. They have asked if the Town would like a table to promote the position at their upcoming job fair June 16. Mary Brazie and Nate Stalker will try to attend. The positions will be posted in the Shopper's Guide again.

COMMITMENTS/BILLINGS/ABATEMENTS:

It was agreed that Commissioners will sign the monthly billing commitment when it is generated the first of each month.

There were no requests for abatements.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Consumer Confidence report has been distributed.

The next meeting date will be June 21, 2023 at 10:00am.

Meeting adjourned at 10:51am

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.23/watermay24

The recording of the minutes is posted on the Town's web page at www.egremont-ma.gov for 90 days. Any attachments noted are on file at Town Hall.