

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
MEETING OF THE WATER COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES

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Date: August 10, 2023  
Time: 11:00am  
Place: Via Zoom Meeting  
Egremont

Present in-person were Selectboard Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Vermeulen, member Mary Brazie, Water Operator Nate Stalker, and Water Clerk Will Brinker, Grant Administrator Peg McDonough, Board of Health Chairman Chuck Ogden, and for part of the meeting Julie Sylvia.

Due to technical issues there was no zoom meeting and no recording.

MINUTES:

Action on the minutes of the July 20 meeting were deferred to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Commissioners interviewed Julie Sylvia for the position of Water Operator/Clerk Trainee. As there are other applicants to be interviewed, Ms Sylvia was informed that someone would contact her in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the Rules and Regulations as drafted by Will Brinker and approved by Legal Counsel.

Water Operator Nate Stalker reported that the main line is complete and awaits testing. Another section of service lines from the Old Mill to Kenver have been installed. Soon the blacktopping will take priority over service line installation. The lines still needs to be hooked to Sheffield Road, Creamery Road and the old line going into Great Barrington. The Board approved the removal of the hydrant on the Village Green and installation of one on Sheffield Road.

Past Due Accounts:

Ferguson - Has made a payment of \$750 and has asked that he be allowed to pay \$300 per month. The Commissioners voted unanimously to agree to \$300 per month plus the regular monthly payment. This account is scheduled for small claims court after which a lien will be placed on the property.

The Egremont Village Inn has paid all their accounts up to current amounts due for September 1.

The Keene residential account is not current. Blexrud, Carman and Stern are all in arrears for more than \$1000 each account. The Commissioners voted to begin the water shut off process for accounts 21, 22, and 153.

The Commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the plicy that the water shut off process will begin when an account is 90 days past due. This will be added to the rules and regulations adopted earlier in the meeting.

GRANTS:

Peg McDonough explained about the Mass Department of Environmental Protections (DEP) Asset Management Grant Program which the Selectboard has approved applying for. The grant will help to update internal operations for the Water Department. The total expenditure will be \$100,000- \$60,000 grant funds, \$12,000 American Rescue Plan Act funds and about \$28,000 from in-kind employee hours. Tighe & Bond would be contracted to work with the Town's employees. The grant will also provide GIS software and mapping, fiscal management training and an inventory assets. The Commissioners voted unanimously to apply.

A University of Massachusetts representative has been in contact regarding the town's request for technical assistance under the DEP's free assistance program for service line and lead line surveying.

The next meeting date will be September 7 at 10:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04pm.

Mary Brazie,  
Office Administrator

minutes.24/aug10water

*Attachments are on file at Town Hall.*