

# Water & Wastewater Subcommittee Meeting

3/4/2021  
7:00 PM to 8:45 PM  
Remote via Zoom

## Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Jim Engel, Kerry Mackin, Brian Kubaska, Michael Dougherty, Bill Craft  
Vicki Halmen, John Parkhurst, Emily Sadoway, Jeff Civitarese  
Jamie Fay (9 Fellows Road)

J. Engel called meeting to order 7:04pm.

## Agenda

### Citizen Queries

Chair

5

Discussion: None

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

### Approval of Minutes

Chair

5

Discussion: M. Dougherty moved to approve the minutes of the January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. K. Mackin seconded the motion.

A roll call vote unanimously approved the minutes.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**Manganese Discussion****V. Halmen****45**

Discussion: V. Halmen provided an overview of the manganese (Mn) health advisory from 2013 and the Town's ongoing efforts to address the issue, including a potential new groundwater source at the town-owned Lynch site. K. Mackin discussed concerns over environmental degradation of Bull Brook. Browns Well on High Street and Fellows Road Well on Fellows Road both have elevated levels of manganese.

J. Fay was in attendance as a concerned resident of Fellows Road. He feels the town should be doing more to protect the residents in the immediate area of Fellows Road Well. He mentioned concerns about the child care facility at New England Biolabs. A sampling program was discussed to gather data on the manganese levels in the area surrounding the wellhead. Data will show the extent of the area of concern where Mn levels exceed the health advisory and allow decisions to be made with respect to operation of the well and communication with area customers.

V. Halmen will work with staff to develop a Mn sampling plan and discuss with J. Fay.

Conclusions:

Action items: Develop sampling plan and execute.

Person responsible: V. Halmen

Deadline: ASAP

**ATM Water & Wastewater Warrant Articles****V. Halmen****30**

Discussion: V. Halmen reviewed three water and wastewater department warrant articles to be considered at annual town meeting in May. 1) \$1.5M for design of upgrades to WTP and Browns Well; 2) \$4M for rehabilitation/replacement of Town Hill Tank; 3) \$1.5M for wastewater system improvements (collection system, aeration system town wharf pump station).

B. Craft moved to support the intent of all of the warrant articles. K. Mackin seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**Updates****V. Halmen****15**

Discussion: E. Sadoway provided updates on current water and wastewater construction projects.

B. Craft inquired about the High/East Street project and voiced concern over the lack of collaboration between town departments. V. Halmen explained that discussions have taken place between all departments regarding the project. DPW is developing a streetscape project with drainage improvements and if that is funded, V. Halmen will coordinate the necessary upgrades to water and sewer piping as part of the project. J. Blair, Electric Light Department Manager, has also been included in discussions about burying powerlines as part of the project.

K. Mackin updates subcommittee on the recent Select Board vote to increase the water and wastewater rates higher than what was recommended by the department and subcommittee. There has been strong opposition from the community and concern that this action could result in residents not supporting the departments warrant articles at annual town meeting.

M. Dougherty and J. Engel voiced concern over the action and feel the Select Board should revise rates back to what was recommended. M. Dougherty would like to resume discussions on the Capital Asset REplacement (CARE) fund.

Conclusions: K. Mackin will bring this feedback to the Select Board for further consideration.

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

**Other Business****V. Halmen****5**

Discussion: None.

Conclusions:

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

**Additional Information**

B. Craft moved to adjourn the meeting. K. Mackin seconded the motion.  
Meeting was adjourned by unanimous roll call vote at 9pm.