

Water & Wastewater Subcommittee Meeting

4/8/2021
7:00 PM to 9:10 PM
Remote via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

J. Engel, K. Mackin, B. Kubaska, B. Craft, M. Dougherty
V. Halmen, J. Parkhurst, R. Leczynski, E. Sadoway, D. Lewellyn
M. Beauchamp, B. Blank (UFS)
M. Szydowski (439 Linebrook)

J. Engel calls meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Agenda

Citizen Queries

Chair

5

Discussion: K. Mackin stated New England Biolabs Foundation may be able to help with funding for manganese solutions at Fellows Road Well. She will reach out for more information.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Approval of Minutes	Chair	5
Discussion: M. Dougherty moved to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2021 subcommittee meeting. K. Mackin seconded the motion. Motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.		
Conclusions:		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

WUMP Application Discussion	M. Szydlowski	10
Discussion: Mr. Szydlowski was present to request the Water Use Mitigation Program (WUMP) fee not be applied to his new home to be built at 439 Linebrook Road due to the fact that he applied and paid for a new water service application in August of 2020, before the WUMP was adopted. He explained that various factors delayed his original start date, which delayed his request for a building permit and he is facing significant additional costs due to site conditions.		
J. Engel clarifies that the Interim WUMP exempts projects that had received a special permit or building permit prior to the effective date of the WUMP. It does not include language exempting projects that applied for water service before that date. It is also clarified that subcommittee makes recommendations to the Water Commissioners. The Commissioners make the final decision.		
K. Mackin voiced her disapproval of the request. M. Dougherty feels the WUMP over-reaches and that single-family homes should not share the same burden of larger development projects. He supports the request. B. Craft and J. Engel agreed that the program exemptions should include more language to cover projects that are underway, but may not have requested a building permit. Rebates and incentives for builders/applicants was discussed.		
B. Craft moved to recommend this project be exempted from the WUMP fees. M. Dougherty seconded the motion. K. Mackin emphasized the importance of why this program was adopted. B. Kubaska encouraged the applicant to install water saving devices. Roll call vote was 4-1 in favor, with K. Mackin opposed.		
Conclusions:		
Action items: Bring request to Water Commissioners for consideration	Person responsible: V. Halmen/Applicant	Deadline:

W&WW Cost of Service Study	V. Halmen / UFS	30
Presentation		
Discussion: M. Beauchamp of Utility Financial Solutions, LLC delivered a presentation on the Financial Projection and Cost of Service study being conducted for the Water and Wastewater Departments. An overview of the financial planning components such as cash reserves, capital spending projections, rates adjustments and policies were provided.		
A discussion followed. The study is underway and more information will be presented once complete. The results of this study will inform future rate design options.		
Conclusions:		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

WUMP Regulation Discussion	J. Engel	60
Discussion: J. Engel delivered a presentation on proposed WUMP regulations that had been delivered to the Select Board and Finance Committee. A small working group has been developing regulations in lieu of a bylaw to enhance the WUMP to incentivize water demand reduction, not simply collect fees.		
A discussion followed that included how the program would impact development in town, how calculations would work, how the program would be administered and what other communities have similar programs.		
The small group will reconvene to discuss all feedback and present revisions to the Select Board in May.		
Conclusions:		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

Updates	V. Halmen	15
Discussion: V. Halmen provided an update on various departmental projects, drought conditions, hydrant flushing, PFAS and manganese.		
Conclusions:		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

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

Discussion: V. Halmen explained that development project at 126-128 High Street is currently before the Planning Board. The entire project area is within the Water Supply Protection District Zone II (Browns Well) and the Planning Board is seeking feedback from the Water Commissioners. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Project material will be provided in advance of the meeting.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Additional Information

M. Dougherty moves to adjourn the meeting. K. Mackin seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 PM by unanimous roll call vote.

Next meeting May 6, 2021 at 7:00 PM.