



**TOWN OF CHARLTON**  
Minutes of September 9, 2019  
Water/Sewer Commission

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Received by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Present: Robert Lemansky, David Cantwell, Paul Gagner, Russ Jennings, Peter Boria, Sue Guerin

Absent: Jennifer H. Vaughan

**I. Call to Order**

**Mr. Lemansky called the meeting to order at 6:36pm**

**II. Commissioner's Public Forum**

**III. Consent Agenda/Warrant/Abatements Approvals as Needed**

**Mr. Jennings motioned to approve the minutes from August 5, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Gagner. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Mr. Jennings motioned to approve the warrants in the amount of \$42,383.58. Seconded by Mr. Gagner. Motion passes unanimously.**

**IV. Scheduled Appointments**

**6:40pm Zach Donahue of Veolia - Monthly Operating Report**

Mr. Donahue reviewed the July MOR. There were no safety accidents or incidents, monthly safety checklist was completed. The safety training this month was crane safety. There were no permit exceedances in the month of July.

The weekly and monthly maintenance check list was completed. The weekly generator full load exercise was completed; critical alarms were tested. The Bio filter motor was replaced on 7/2/19, Headworks grit auger motor was replaced on 7/8/19, Comag clarifier repairs completed on 7/16/19, and a motor for one of the Comag reaction tanks mixer was replaced on 7/19/19. Pump Stations: All pump station alarm tests and full load generator tests were completed. MTA's were sampled on July 4th and July 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a pump failure at Stevens Park Rd due to rags built up in the pump. The pump was removed, cleaned and reinstalled. Handouts to area residents of what shouldn't be flushed were delivered door to door.

There was an alarm call from Burlingame Rd pump station for a pump failure and low wet well level. Lafleur came out to troubleshoot the motor and other electronics. Signs point to it being a failed soft starter and are in the process of getting it replaced. There were 3 grinder pump calls and 5 dig safes for the month of July.

Additional remarks

Mr. Donahue is looking for approval to have the wiring repaired for the mixer located in the sludge holding tank #2. A quote from Lafleur was attached in the amount of \$2,325.00 **Mr. Lemansky is looking for a motion to approve the work from Lafleur in the amount of \$2,325.00. Mr. Gagner "So Moved" Seconded by Mr. Jennings. Motion passes unanimously.**

At the last meeting we discussed how the Vine Street pump station transfer switch had failed and were in need of replacement. Two quotes were received, one from Infra-Red and Power Services in the amount of \$11,317.94 as well as Lafleur in the amount to \$5,825.00 (Both quotes were attached.) Mr. Donahue is looking for approval to have Lafleur complete the work. **Mr. Gagner motioned to give the job to Lafleur Elec. In the amount of \$5,825.00. Seconded by Mr. Jennings. Motion passes unanimously.**

On August 7<sup>th</sup> we had a DEP inspection. Inspections are done approximately every 3 years. Mr. Donahue felt it was a very positive meeting. We will get a report summarizing the inspection.

The last meeting we discussed the failed level sensor system at the Vine St. Pump station. (Similar to what happened at the Main St. pump station.) That was repaired and a new Transducer system was installed. Total cost of the repair with labor is \$3,564.93.

Mr. Donahue is requesting approval for renewal of the generator scheduled maintenance agreement with Bigelow Electric. This covers a biannual service of all the generators in the collection system as well as the 2 at the plant. The cost of the service is \$3,770.00, which is the same as last year. **Mr. Lemansky to accept a motion to purchase the service from Bigelow Electric in the amount of \$3,770.00. Mr. Jennings motioned to accept the contract as printed. Seconded by Mr. Gagner. Motion passes unanimously.**

Also at the last meeting the need to upgrade the alarm dialers from 3G to 4G was discussed. We explored other options, and Mr. Donahue priced out Senisphone dialers that are used in Sturbridge and available from the USA blue book for \$514.75 each and will require a land line. If we were to go this route, we could change out the 6 RACO units for \$3119.17. (leaving us with 4 verbatims) Our RACO service expires December 2019. Mr. Boria stated if we continue with RACO we will need to upgrade to 4G or order the Sensiphones. Mr. Boria asked for a decision to be made by the end of October so that Mr. Donahue can order and install the Sensiphones.

Mr. Donahue will submit the numbers for the commission to review at the next meeting.

#### V. New Business

##### **Partial Betterment Release - Masonic Home Lot 34B-A-37.1**

This is a piece of property at the corner of Burlingame Rd and T Hall Rd. It is approx. 3 acres of land owned by Masonic Home. This Parcel is to be cut out of their large parcel and includes the lien that the W/S dept. has on their property for their privilege fee. They have asked for the commission to vote to give an exemption so that they are able to sell the 3 Acres.

Mr. Boria stated that there is no sewer in that area, and no betterment to go with the property. Leaving 100% of the betterment on the Overlook Property.

As a part of your packet there is a proposed vote that was prepared by Bowditch and Dewey. There is also a certificate for dividing the sewer betterment assessment that was sent from Bowditch and Dewey which needs to be signed and notarized.

**Mr. Jennings motioned to accept the proposed vote as printed by Bowditch and Dewey, Seconded by Mr. Gagner. Motion passes unanimously.**

**Mr. Jennings motioned to accept the certificate of dividing sewer betterment assessment as printed. Seconded by Mr. Gagner. Motion passes unanimously.**

##### **Approval of Betterment for Property 11A-C-9, 12 N. Sturbridge Rd.**

12 N. Sturbridge Rd has recently connected to sewer. They purchased the grinder pump through the W/S Dept., and the connection has been made. A motion for the privilege fee needs to be made, approved and signed, then turned into the assessor's office. **Mr. Jennings motioned to accept the printed privilege fee for MBL 11-A-C-9 in the amount of \$8,200.00. Seconded by Mr. Gagner. Motion passes unanimously.**

##### **Surplus property.**

Mr. Boria discussed the random excess material over by the shed at the W/S plant. This is town owned and we are unable to dispose of. In order to do so, it needs to be deemed as surplus property. We are hoping to have this cleaned up before the winter comes. Mr. Donahue created a list for the commission to deem as surplus property and submit to the BOS. Mr. Jennings asked about the 2 Hydrants listed, are new or used? He will swing by the plant to take a look at them. **Mr. Lemansky to accept a motion to**

**declare the items as listed except for the 2 hydrants as surplus material and be passed onto the BOS. Mr. Jennings "So moved" Seconded by Mr. Cantwell. Motion passes unanimously.**

#### **58 North Main Street Sewer Bill Adjustment.**

Shortly after the quarterly sewer bills went out, the owners of 58 N. Main Street questioned the high usage and amount due. After some investigating by the Town of Southbridge, they found that there was a break in the water feed line underneath the building. It was confirmed that the water went into the ground and not into the sewer lines.

Steve Wandland and Rob Lemansky spoke of the situation and based on their past average bill of \$138.22 an abatement in the amount of \$777.91 was issued as their bill is due on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> and they did not want to incur interest or late fees.

We are bringing this up for discussion and to confirm what was done.

#### **59 N. Main Street New Water Connection**

The BOH is looking to close out the release tracking number from the old highway garage; this is the last property that needs to be connected to water in order to close out that RTN with the DEP. By closing out the RTN, that allows us to no longer pay CMG to do reports or bi annual water testing, which would lead to an approx. cost savings of 5K per year. This has been brought to the WS commission because we have the Exxon Mobil funds that was left over and transferred to us at the last ATM, and if you would authorize and fund the connection to close out the RTN and not have to pay the annual cost. We are presently waiting on a quote for the connection from DC engineering who recently completed another water connection on Main St. Mr. Boria will bring it back to the commission once the quote is received.

#### **Special Town Meeting -**

The meeting is to be held on Tuesday, October 8. We have the following in retained earnings for FY 2019 Water \$220,436.00 and Sewer \$573,355.00. Mr. Boria is requesting that we move funds from retained earnings to stabilization.

We have a stabilization account for both Water and Sewer which we receive interest for. Mr. Lemansky explained that should we want to move the money (from stabilization), it would require a 2/3 vote in order to do so vs a 50% vote.

**Mr. Boria requested if a motion could be made to transfer \$20,436.00 from Water Retained Earnings to Water Stabilization and \$323,355.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings to Sewer Stabilization, he can forward to the Town Administrator and ask her to leave a place holder for the Water RRFA to also go into the Water Stabilization.**

**Mr. Cantwell to make the motion as Mr. Boria stated. Seconded by Mr. Jennings. Motion passes unanimously.**

## **VI. Old Business**

### **Water Line Construction Update.**

**Berry Corner Rd.** – Ludlow has just a few service connections left to complete. Reclaim of Berry Corner Rd began last week. They are making good progress. Now that the pump station is installed and running, they can start making the water line connections on Berry Corner Rd.

**School Loop** – Albanese should be finishing up on Morton Station Rd, but hit quite a bit of hard rock at the end of Old Worcester Rd. Once that is completed they will start working on the large culvert on Old Worcester Rd. To do that they will have to close the road for 2-3 weeks. They are supposed to be working with the residents to coordinate what is going to happen. Once the work begins on the culvert, there will be a second crew to begin installing water main and preparing the pump station site at the Masonic Home. They are expecting delivery of the pump station January/February. A 3<sup>rd</sup> crew will be installing services on Old Worcester Rd. They are on target to have all the ground work installed this construction season.

**Rte. 169 Pump Station** – DEP was on site Aug 29 to inspect the pump station. There are minor items to be addressed. The TOS has been operating the pump station sparingly. There will be a commissioning ceremony towards the end of the month.

**Buffumville Public Water Supply** - We will be discussing the final purchase of the Phillips' property in Executive Session. Mr. Boria is still working with BETA to come up with a scope of work to provide to the DEP for this year's water master plan grant.

**VII. Next Meeting - September 23, 2019**

**Mr. Jennings makes a motion to go into Executive Session under M.G.L c.30A, Sec 21(a) #6 to consider the purchase, exchange, lease of value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the negotiation position of the public body. Seconded by Mr. Cantwell.**

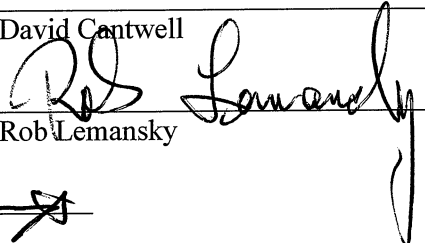
**The commission will come out of Executive session for the sole purpose of adjournment.**

**Mr. Gagner made the motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm Seconded by Mr. Cantwell. Motion passes unanimously.**

Submitted by:  
Sue Guerin  
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by:  
  
Paul Gagner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jenn H. Vaughan

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Cantwell  
  
Rob Lemansky

  
Russ Jennings

Minutes were approved and signed on 9/23/19.