



TOWN OF HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

500 PLYMOUTH STREET
HALIFAX, MASSACHUSETTS 02338
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MEETING MINUTES October 10, 2023

5:11 p.m. Daniel Bosworth made a motion to open the meeting.
Seconded by Richard Clark

Motion Passes

Present: Richard Clark, Chairman
Daniel O. Bosworth, Jr., Clerk
Bill Lindsay, Superintendent
Kathleen O'Neil, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Donald Bosworth, Commissioner

Meeting Minutes

Daniel Bosworth made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 12, 2023, as written.
Second by Richard Clark.

Motion Passes

Pine Street Bridge

Bill informed the Commissioners that the Board of Selectmen would like to do a ribbon cutting ceremony at Pine Street Bridge once the project is complete. Bill stated that the work is almost done.

Lead & Copper Sampling Program

There have been some issues with the list of people willing to continue to participate in the lead & copper sampling program. Sully called the lab and they said they may have a program to incentivize homeowners to participate. The incentive could be \$10-\$15. Samples are not due again until next year. Dick said we have plenty of time to give this some thought.

Cumberland Farms

Bill stated that 2-inch water meter at Cumberland Farms is not functioning properly. The meter is in a pit, covered with dirt. The meter covers the usage of the entire plaza. Bill would like to replace it with a radio read but it could be costly. Dick agrees that the meter should be changed out.

VOC Sampling

Bill stated that Sully has been having issues taking VOC samples at Y Camp. It requires a lot of pressure to push the syringe through the filter and it takes about eight syringes to get a valid sample. Richmond Park is very easy to push through the filter.

Union Contract

Town Administrator, Cody Haddad sent Bill an email last week stating that the Board of Selectmen are not willing to re-open the mixed union contract to change the terms of the overtime wages.

Union Contract

Dick has a problem with this. The Commissioners sent the memo to the Board of Selectmen directly and the response came from the Town Administrator to the Water Superintendent, not the Selectmen to the Commissioners.

Dick would like to send an email to each Selectmen individually stating that because of the situation, the Board of Water Commissioners is looking into contracting with a firm who will cover emergencies and/or well duties. To fund this retainer, the Commission will need to increase water usage rates. This requires a public hearing to allow the community to ask questions and address any concerns. Hiring a company to cover emergencies is costly but necessary. For reference, the town of Duxbury has been paying Weston & Sampson approximately \$15,000 per month to oversee their treatment plants due to loss of their labor force over union negotiations. Hoadley has provided Bill with the cost of approximately \$2,500 to do an emergency repair.

Bill stated he also sent a letter to the Board of Selectmen stating that he does not agree with the overall changes to overtime rates when this section pertains to the Building Maintenance department only. Bill stressed his concern about trying to fill a treatment plant operator position under these conditions.

Daniel Bosworth made a motion to send a letter via email to each Selectmen, as discussed.
Second by Richard Clark. *Motion Passes*

Adjournment

6:15 p.m. Daniel Bosworth made a motion to adjourn.
Second by Richard Clark

Motion Passes

Approved,


Daniel Bosworth, Clerk