

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Warner Village Water District Commissioners
At 9:00 A.M. on
January 26, 2022 at the Treatment Plant

Present: Peter Newman, Dann Lavoie, and Peter Savlen, Commissioners; Chris Perkins, Treasurer; Chuck Come, Superintendent; Ray Martin, Administrator; and Jim McLaughlin, Clerk.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Commissioners' regular meeting held on January 12, 2022 were approved as submitted.

Administrator's Report

Ray reported that the Town's Budget Committee will hold a public hearing on the District's 2022 budget on Thursday, January 27. The budget as approved by the Commissioners represents a 3.6 percent increase over last year.

The Commissioners discussed raising the water and sewer rates to meet increases in operating costs such as a 14 percent increase in the District's contribution to employee retirement, increase in sludge removal costs, and increased cost of chemicals. In view of these and other cost increases, the Commissioners voted to propose a 4 percent increase to the water and sewer rates being charged to District customers which will have to be approved at 2022 annual meeting.

Ray next advised the Commissioners that the preliminary engineering report, prepared by Horizon Engineering, has been submitted to NHDES for their approval. Ray said that the District has been approved for \$1.8 million under the State Revolving Fund Program, including \$600,000 in grant and the balance in loans. There may be additional grant funds available to the District through the recently passed federal Infrastructure pot of money.

Ray said he will check with EPA on the status of the District's NPDES permit to discharge treated effluent in the Warner River.

Superintendent's Report

Chuck Come updated the Commissioners on Well #1. He said that the two wells are being worked on a two-weeks on, two weeks off regime. Well #1 is producing water at 100 gallons per minute rate under reduced pumping made possible by the installation of the variable speed controls.

Chuck reported that the cold weather has resulted in a number of call-outs for him to respond to issues related to power outages. Sustained power stoppages allow the generator to come on so the plant continues operating. But momentary flickers do not, thus presenting potential freeze-ups of the oxidation ditch rotor. Improvements to the plant, part of the Rapid Infiltration Basin Project include installation of mixers in the oxidation ditches to limit possible freezing problems.

Chuck mentioned that an article published by the Granite State Rural Water Association praises the District's work in improving its water and sewer facilities.

Chuck reported that tests of back-flow preventors in the precinct have been conducted, including those at the new Dunkin store.

He recommended that the Commissioners not remove outside water use restrictions that have been in effect for the past several years, primarily due to the need to maintain a healthy well field. The Commissioners voted to maintain the ban and asked Ray to include this advisory in the next submittal of bills.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 A.M.

The next regular meeting will be January 26, 2022.

Recorded by Jim McLaughlin, Clerk.