Town of Rowley

Municipal Water Department
401 Central St., Rowley, MA
Office: 978.948.2640

April 18, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Mark Emery, Commissioner Bernard Cullen, Commissioner John Manning, Superintendent, Bob Gray, Administrative Assistant, Katherine Bento

Chairman Emery opened the meeting at 6:40

Agenda Items:

1. **Discuss abatement for 15 Lawrence Rd.:**
   Commissioner Cullen said he does not think the request is reasonable. He asked that Pennichuck recalculate the first two months.
   Commissioner Manning said he is inclined to think it is not unreasonable because the management company had to hire many entities to discover the water loss issue.
   Chairman Emery said we should have a policy that makes a limit to the abatement period. Commissioner Cullen made a motion to have Pennichuck make an adjustment for the first two months. Commissioner Manning seconded. **All in favor at 6:47.**

2. **Update from PRS Group:**
   Commissioner Manning said he is looking for a recommendation from PRS. He just wants the work done. With regards to the SCADA system, we seem to be at a standstill. Bob Gray said that all the issues with RE Erickson have been resolved. Commissioner Manning said this job just needs to be done.

3. **Discuss water loss:**
   Superintendent Gray explained that he has ordered replacements for all the 2" meters. They will be sent out for testing. He said we are losing 240 gallons/min. Commissioner Cullen said it would be helpful if we could determine how much water per person is being used. He said the census information would provide information.

4. **Debrief Finance Committee meeting:**
   Commissioner Cullen said the amount of money we are paying for UPS per month is far too high. Chairman Emery and Commissioner Manning request that we ask Pennichuck if there is a more efficient way to process the payments.

   Commissioner Cullen said the Finance Committee is concerned with the water loss and would like the department to replace every meter. He said Dennis Roy thinks we should be reducing the rates.

5. **Approve the budget:**
   Chairman Emery said the Board needs to approve the budget again due to inaccurate numbers from the Town Accountant. Commissioner Cullen read aloud the numbers that were changed. He also read aloud the Articles. Commissioner Manning motioned to accept the budget as amended and presented. Commissioner Cullen seconded. **All in favor at 7:20.**

6. **Superintendents report of current and future operations of the department:**
   No reports.

Approve the Minutes:

March 8, 2023: Commissioner Manning motioned to approve. Commissioner Cullen seconded. **All in favor at 7:25.**

Next meeting: May 23rd.

Commissioner Manning motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Cullen seconded**. All in favor at 7:30.**

Minutes accepted at the May 23, 2023 meeting.

Minutes respectfully prepared by Kathy Bento.

Documents provided/discussed at meeting are available at the Water Department office:
Meeting Agenda
Minutes
Budget reports
Budget overview
Articles

Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, S.23B, the approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and any actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no Certification, express or implied, is made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.