Town of Rowley

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

March 19, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairperson, Bernie Cullen, Commissioner John Manning, Superintendent, Bob Gray, Administrative Assistant, Kathy Bento

Chairman Cullen opened the meeting at 6:30.

Agenda Items:

1. **Vote on Articles:**
   Chairperson Cullen explained the three articles.
   Commissioner Manning motioned to approve articles 1 and 2 for submission to Town Meeting. Chairperson Cullen seconded. **All in favor at 7:00.**
   Commissioner Manning motioned to approve article 3 for $30,000. Chairperson Cullen seconded. **All in favor at 7:07.**

2. **Vote on Budget:**
   Chairperson Cullen explained the status of each account line.
   Commissioner Manning motioned to approve the budget for $2,531,285.00.
   Commissioner Cullen seconded. **All in favor at 6:55.**

   Chairperson Cullen explained at this time, the department has 1.5 million in the stabilization fund. It is there to help cover any shortfalls in revenue and any new expenditure. There is other money, which is unspent article money, and in total, is 3.5 million. In an account that is earning interest, about 150,000/yr. He suggested we should allocate the interest to reduce the rates by 5%. Commissioner Manning said he would be in favor of that. His only concern is how would the department absorb the shortfall if the rates decreased again. The subject will be voted on at a later meeting when Commissioner Emery is present.

Next meeting: April 23, 2024

Adjourn: Commissioner Manning motioned to adjourn. Chairperson Cullen seconded. **All in favor at 7:15.**

Minutes respectfully prepared by Kathy Bento.

Documents provided/discussed at the meeting are available at the Water Department office:
Meeting Agenda
Budget
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 context only, and no Certification, express or implied, be made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.