Town of Rowley

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

April 23, 2024
Meeting Minutes

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

Chairman Cullen opened the meeting at 6:40.

Agenda Items:

1. **Discuss abatement for 141 Hillside:**
   Commissioner Emery motioned to approve the abatement. Chair Cullen seconded. **All in favor at 6:42.**

2. **Discuss new service charges for multi-unit dwellings:**
   Superintendent Gray said the impact fee of $4000 is not enough. He would like to see what other towns are charging. Commissioner Emery asked why a single homeowner should have to pay the same as a developer. He asked Bob Gray to ask other Towns what kind of fees they charge for multi-unit dwellings. A new policy needs to be created, to cover both new homes and developments.

3. **Discuss hydrant flushing:**
   Bob Gray said this will take place starting May 7th from 7 pm – 11 pm and continuing from May 8th to the end of the month between 9 am – 2 pm.

4. **Discuss gate valve exercising:**
   Superintendent Gray explained that the operators have been exercising the gate valves, and have a sufficient amount of replacement parts.

5. **Discuss meter reading training:**
   Superintendent Gray explained that the operators will have training in the reading of the new Mach 10 meters. He said it is a more efficient system than the one we currently use.

6. **Superintendents report on current and future operations of the department:**

   a. **Discuss change order for Wells 3 & 5:**
      Superintendent Gray explained that six of the pumps in the wells will need replacement. He said there is money left in the Article, and if necessary, funds can be taken from the Emergency and Unforeseen line.

b. Discuss generator at WTP:
Bob Gray explained that the generator has been at the plant for approximately ten years. He is looking into the warranty in the contract. He will be comparing the costs of new and leased generators.

c. PFAS:
Bob Gray presented the Board with handouts for a recent seminar he attended. The regulations have become more stringent. The new contaminant level has gone from four to two parts per trillion. The volume of testing requirements has also become dismaying.

Approve minutes:

March 12, 2024: Commissioner Manning motioned to approve. Commissioner Emery seconded. **All in favor at 8:05.**

Next meeting: May 21, 2024

Adjourn: Commissioner Emery motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Manning seconded. **All in favor at 8:06.**

Minutes respectfully prepared by Kathy Bento.

Documents provided/discussed at the meeting are available at the Water Department office:
Meeting Agenda
Budget
PFAS info.

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.