

## Water Resources Committee Meeting – 10.20.2021

### Attendees:

- Becky Malamut
- Kevin Finney
- Freya Schlegel
- Emily Simmer
- Bruce Arbonies
- Joanne Wyckoff
- Mark Cloud, Water Depy

### Scituate Water System Update – Mark Cloud

- Plenty of water, usage is down, pumping twice as much with wells as the treatment plant which is helping keep brown water down.
- One leak on Standish ave.
- Manganese levels dropping which is also helping with brown water.
- Worst water quality we have had in some time due to all of the rain we've gotten.
- Work on Well 17 is being finished and may be finished by next month. Supply chain issues slowing things down.
- 1-2 weeks until the pilot study on new treatment plant is finalized.
  - There will be a Summer study and a winter study.
- Well 18B – Working on alarm system and inspection from DEP. Goal is end of this year.
- Water main project is 75% complete. Will continue work as weather allows.
- Asking for more water mains at next town meeting. Have a list of older water mains they are working through.
- Road moratorium on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Water main work will continue.
- Reservoir project (Becky):
  - Engineer needs the town to:
    - Discuss different wetland mitigation projects
    - Agree to review operational plan which identifies stream flow targets
    - Discuss access for construction vehicles
  - Next meeting in beginning of November
- Border Street proposal:
  - Proposal to purchase property with CPC funding - \$2.5 million range.
  - Or developer to build 4-6 houses and leave some land for conservation.
  - Select Board voted majority against purchasing the parcel.
  - Becky to discuss with Kevin for more details on CPC funding and its use

### Water conservation outreach

- No update on videos
- Car washes
  - Letter regarding car washes was presented
  - Other ideas for fundraising were presented

## Offsets & rebate programs update

- Offsets/mitigation fees
  - Discussed proposal of different mitigation fees for residential, restaurants and other entities.
  - Other towns: Danvers: \$9 GPD, Abington/Rockland: \$5.50 gpd fee. Fee is typically one-time.
  - For entities not yet connected to the water supply.
  - Proposal made in the spring: threshold of 100 gpd increase
  - Discussed concern that fees may be onerous to small businesses
  - Examples of ways to offset or lower impact fee: Weymouth has a credit system. Danvers & Wenham both require low-flow fixtures. Ipswich & Acton reduce the fee based on more efficient water systems.
  - Next steps: Becky to inquire with other towns for some specifics given their experience
- Rebate Program:
  - Other towns rebate programs were reviewed including Reading, Madison (WI), Danvers, Acton, etc
  - Scituate municipal buildings implementation: How much water (and expense) would they save?
  - Discussed possible recommendations and work with Nancy Holt to discuss funding
  - Becky to share proposal for rebate program to be discussed at next meeting

## Priorities for the rest of the year

- Joanne discussed litter related to cigarettes
- Tabled discussion of other ideas

## Liaison updates

- Planning Board (Becky)
  - 7 New Driftway plans were reviewed (21 unit residential condominiums). Hearing planned for November 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Zoning (Bruce)
  - Last month's meeting – Commercial property: 108 Stockbridge commercial owner in disagreement with abutting neighbors regarding a Quonset hut. Owner offered to construct 150-foot long berm which could be in the water resource protection district. Zoning suggests this issue is a Conservation Committee issue. This issue is not on the agenda for tomorrow's Zoning Board meeting. Bruce to inquire for further details in the meantime.

## Approve September minutes

- Move to approve (Bruce), Seconded (Joanne). Unanimous

## Recent correspondence

- No recent correspondence

#### Open discussion

- Discussed meeting in early November to discuss offset/rebate. This meeting will be virtual.
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#### Adjourn