

Water Resources Committee Meeting – 11.2.2021

Attendees:

- Becky Malamut
- Kevin Finney
- Freya Schlegel
- Emily Simmer
- Bruce Arbonies
- Joanne Wyckoff
- Jackie Bohn

- Mark Cloud, Water Dept

Scituate Water System Update – Mark Cloud

- 4 inches of rain from last storm. Ran the generator for 3 days straight. Reservoir was 8 inches over.
- Water main contractor has a few more streets to finish before winter. Then back in the spring to finish the contract.
- Still working on Well 17, Well 18 and water treatment plants.
- Pilot study – Summer was completed; colder water study to be completed this winter.
- Bruce: If generator failed what was backup plan?
 - Mark Cloud: Bringing in a second generator or try to get back on wells.
 - Bruce: What is process in bringing in a new generator?
 - MC: Probably would take a day. Could get by on the wells, but by next summer we should have 4 wells on generators.
- Becky Malamut: With all the rain did water quality change?
 - MC: Did not make any difference.
 - BM: Manganese level?
 - MC: No change, but the usage is down.
 - BM: Brown water calls?
 - MC: None.

Water conservation outreach

- Car wash letter review
 - It was pointed out by Mark that permission was granted and approval was granted since the water levels were so high. Mark's recollection that this permission was granted twice.
 - By laws are pretty strict, does the process need to be reviewed?
 - In light of this, letters are still a good piece to serve as reminders.

- Updates on video – None at this time

Offsets & Rebate Programs Update

- Offsets for commercial entities
 - Reviewed water offset fee worksheet.
 - Becky met with other towns to discuss their programs. Other towns have not experienced that water offsets deter development. They will work with developers/owners on water usage/conservation ideas.
 - Proposal cap? Length of time to complete payments? Are there ways to work with businesses to make the payment less onerous?
 - A fee per additional gpd for 1 day. Mitigation fee for 2 bedroom resident is 1,300.
 - Discussed working with businesses on various solutions including a cap in year one and payment plans over multiple years.
 - Concerns voiced for small businesses in challenging times.
 - Becky proposed: Cap on upfront and payment plan, including commercial entities – \$5 commercial; \$10 residential:
 - Bruce: Support, but commercial only with a cap in year 1 and payment plan (Jackie, Kevin, Becky, Joanne agree)
 - Freya: Support of residential, unsure on commercial
- Discussed: Proposing steps developers can take to reduce offset fee
 - Including low flow water fixtures and appliances even though those things can easily be changed post-development.
 - Consensus agreement
- Becky to propose structure/bare bones to Water Commissioners. Then pass it off to town to finalize numbers
- Rebate programs
 - Other towns were reviewed
 - Discussed various proposals for rebate programs
 - Becky proposed rebate amounts for different pieces of equipment: Joanne, Emily, Bruce, Freya, Kevin, Jackie approved
- Becky to schedule a meeting for feedback from Jim Boudreau. Discussed administration of all of these programs.

Priorities for the rest of the year

- Tabled for next meeting

Liaison updates

- Becky: No update from Planning
- Emily: No update from School
- Bruce: (Zoning) Stockbridge Road. Berm being constructed is outside of WRPD according to survey maps
- Freya: No update from EDC
- Joanne (Conservation) Meeting cancelled

- Jackie: No update from BOH. Freya asked about the irrigation well at Stockbridge Landing, how approved so close to an old landfill site?

Approve October Minutes

- Becky motions to approve, Freya second, all in favor.
- Motion passes

Recent correspondence

- None

Open Discussion

- Schedule next meeting?
 - Wednesday, December 8th, 7pm

Adjourn