



TOWN OF MEDWAY  
WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
MEDWAY, MASSACHUSETTS

**Commissioners**

Leo O'Rourke, Chair

Francis E. (Ted) Kenney Jr.,  
Member

Barry Zide, Member

**Meeting Minutes**

**APPROVED 05/21/18**

May 7, 2018

Medway Town Hall  
Town Administrators Conference Room  
155 Village Street  
Medway MA 02053

In attendance: DPS Director Dave D'Amico, Commissioner Ted Kenney, Commissioner Leo O'Rourke, Commissioner Barry Zide, Water Superintendent Jim Lanctot, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary Judi LaPan and Town Administrator Michael Boynton.

Chairman O'Rourke called the Water & Sewer Commissioners meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

Commissioner Kenney makes a motion to approve the minutes with edits from the 04/23/18 meeting. Commissioner O'Rourke seconded the motion. Unanimous

Abatement Request – None

**Water System Sustainability Options**

Director D'Amico informed the Commissioners that the cost estimates discussed at the last meeting did not include approximately 5.5 million dollars for upcoming water main replacements. Commissioner Zide wants to discuss funding options that are both accurate and defensible when residents are going to be faced with rate increases to fund the required drinking water system improvements. Town Administrator Boynton states that there has to be a fair and equitable way to do this.

The question arose as to whether or not a resident who does not have town water and or sewer should pay into these required drinking water system improvements. Fundamentally there are benefits to these residents as the required drinking water system improvements not only benefit homeowners but also benefit the schools as well as every business in town. Director D'Amico adds that approximately 9000 residents use town water every day.

Current plans are to replace the water mains in the Brentwood neighborhood, a portion of Holliston Street, Maple Street and the portion of Lovering Street between Holliston Street and the 4 Way Intersection at Maple, Pond & Lovering Streets within the next 2-4 years. Town Administrator Boynton states that there will always be a need to continue maintaining and improving the water and sewer systems.

There was a discussion about whether or not there was any Exelon revenue to help fund the required drinking water system improvements. Town Administrator Boynton states that the conversation could be had at a later date but the Board of Selectmen were not in favor of using Exelon revenue for the required drinking water system improvements at this time. The Board of Selectmen did allocate Exelon revenue to fund a six year plan for the Roadway Infrastructure Improvements project. The Board of Selectmen also allocated 500K for general tax relief to residents.

There was a conversation as to whether betterments could be assessed to help fund the required drinking water system improvements. As the water mains do not service the entire town this model may not be equitable. There was also a conversation about what the parameters were to allow for a debt exclusion. Town Administrator Boynton states that water quality meets the parameters. Holliston is currently asking its residents to approve a debt exclusion for water quality issues. Town Administrator Boynton states that Medway has historically had artificially low water rates. This was due in part to the fact that there were few infrastructure and system improvements made for many years. Commissioner Zide states that when the Water & Sewer Commissioners go to the Board of Selectmen to discuss funding options for the required drinking water system improvements he wants to make sure that all potential sources of funding have already been explored and any questions the BOS may have are already answered. Commissioner O'Rourke asked what the debt service would be covering. Director D'Amico stated that the debt service will cover the new plant, piping and approximately 40% of the new DPS building.

Commissioner Zide asks if there are other options to be explored. A few areas for further exploration: tiered residential and commercial rates, new revenue and grants. Town Administrator Boynton advises the Commissioners to size the new Populatic Treatment building appropriately to ensure it meets future needs.

On water supply capacity Mr. Boynton questions if it is appropriate to go to the DEP to see if we can increase our pumping capacity. He asks if we are capped at 1.2 million gallons per day. Water Superintendent Lanctot states that we are capped at 1.2 million until we are able to reduce our unaccounted for water. Director D'Amico added that there are few other supply options available, so improving capacity at each well site is critical.

Current milestones are the Rate Setting Hearing where the Commissioners will need to make a recommendation on the Water & Sewer Rates within June 2018 and presentation for Fall Town Meeting. Commissioner Kenney mentions that the Commissioners, Director, Deputy Director and Water Superintendent all agreed upon the direction of this proposed plan. The required drinking water system improvements will ensure the future of sustainable safe drinking water for Medway.

**Directors Report:**

Director D'Amico informed the Commissioners that the Populatic Well was down over the weekend due to a pump fault on the Variable Frequency Drive (VFD). The secondary VFD also faulted indicating a pump/motor problem. Backflow at the well indicated a check valve failure. The check valve was cleared and the pump was restarted. On Monday, the well was shut down until all repairs could be made. The well was brought back online late Monday. The situation coupled with Oakland Well being offline underscored the importance of adding redundancy to the system. He also informed the Commissioners that the new screen being installed at the Oakland Well was dropped by the vendor during the installation. The 60 foot drop in the well damaged the screen. A new screen is being manufactured and should be installed within the next 2 weeks. All costs are born by the contractor.

**Open Discussion: None**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2018 at 5PM. The meeting will be held in the DPS Conference Room, 45B Holliston Street, Door 9, Medway MA.

**Commissioner Kenney made a motion to adjourn at 6:15 PM. Commissioner Zide seconded the motion.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Judi LaPan