

Dover Water Resources Committee Meeting Minutes - July 29, 2020

Held remotely via zoom

Present: Chairman, Professor Gerald Clarke; Members: Carol Lisbon, Justine Kent-Uritam, Ron Myrick, Greg Kahoun

1. Meeting called to order 8:09 am
2. Committee members continue efforts to recruit a candidate to fill a vacancy on the committee.
3. Gerald informed the committee about recent changes approved to the well regulations by the Board of Health:
 - The use of constant pressure pumps is allowed.
 - The use of 120 PVC pipe to depths of 700 feet, thereafter stainless steel must be used; cast iron shall not be used.
4. Gerald announced that the next MA Drought Task Force meeting is scheduled for August 12.
5. There was a discussion of ways by which to accurately measure rainfall in town. A suggestion was made that perhaps a local weather station is needed. Ongoing reporting from the NOAA station in Norwood does not appear to provide an accurate gauge of what is actually occurring in Dover.
6. Justine suggested that perhaps volunteers might be trained in using proper instruments and reporting rain totals. Carol offered that perhaps one of the high school teachers might want to pursue it as a class project. She noted that much of the needed equipment automatically transmits data. Gerald will check into costs associated with the instruments, noting grants could be a source of funding.
7. Carol made a motion seconded by Justine to approve payment of the Kleinfelder contract for monitoring gauges and measurement for FY21 from the BOH operating budget. The motion passed unanimously. It was noted that the cost to replace failed well #6 was not included in the contract.
8. There was further debate as to whether replacing the well was necessary. Ron suggested that this particular well was in a hydrologically active area and data collected would be of value. Also discussed was the idea of adding 1-2 more wells to the study. The cost would be minimal as drilling equipment would already be out in the field.

9. A motion was made by Justine and seconded by Greg to authorize Gerald to contact Kleinfelder regarding replacing the failed well and ascertaining the costs of new wells. The motion passed unanimously.
10. Ron has provided the guidance necessary to his son for the collection of readings from the monitoring wells as part of his 40 hours of community service at the High School. Readings will be ongoing.
11. A question arose as to whether local boards of health have any jurisdiction over towns' streams and rivers flows.
12. Carol stated that conservation measures may be best addressed through education using all media available.
13. A motion was made by Justine and seconded by Greg to put up the water conservation warning signs and change them to the emergency signs should the state declare a drought. The motion passed unanimously.
14. A motion was made by Carol and seconded by Justine to approve the purchase of a water conservation banner with the ability to change the wording from warning to emergency. The motion passed unanimously.
15. It was reported that the Colonial Water Company will cut back on the amount of chlorine it is sending through the pipes in about a week. It was noted that the DEP does not have meaningful enforcement capacity and that Representative Garlick has been putting pressure on Colonial to do better.
16. WRC meetings will be generally held the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday August 11.
17. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

Karen R. Hayett