

# North Haverhill Water & Light District

Minutes of the September 21, 2021 meeting.

- \* The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM at the North Haverhill United Methodist Church.
  
- \* Those present: Dennis Fournier, Rich Clifford, Cheryl Marchetti, John Page, Luanne Fournier, Bob Fagnant and Sarah Tucker.
  
- \* Others: Mike Youngman, Chris Knudson and Joe Knudson.
  
- \* Reviewed minutes of the August 17, 2021 meeting. Rich made a motion to accept the minutes, which Cheryl seconded, and the commissioners approved.
  
- \* Appearances: Mike Youngman, 139 Benton Road. Joe Knudson, 127 Brushwood Road.
  - \*\* Mr. Youngman requested water at his property at 139 Benton Road. Bob said that Mr. Youngman had paid the outstanding balance of the water bill for Rick Fadden. The water meter is in a pit and was split but Bob repaired it. He's going to want the water turned on in the next 2-3 weeks. Dennis made a motion to approve his request for water. Rich seconded it and the commissioners approved it.
  - \*\* Chris Knudson has submitted a request for water at 127 Brushwood Road. Sarah received the packet of paperwork he sent. He'd like the water turned on sometime this fall. It will involve crossing Brushwood Road. His plan is to build a barn first followed by a house at a later date. Derek Graham is his contractor. Mr. Knudson understands that he is responsible for all costs associated with the water line installation as well as an \$800 access fee. If the barn is not heated, the water meter will have to be installed in a meter pit. He requested a 1 1/2-inch service. Bob will work up an estimate of costs and contact him. Bob did tell him that he thought a 1-inch line would be more than sufficient for what he needs but he insisted he wanted a 1 1/2-inch line. Rich made a motion to approve Mr. Knudson's request for water at 127 Brushwood Road with oversight by Bob. Cheryl seconded the motion and the commissioners approved it. Mr. Knudson left a check for \$800 to cover the access fee.
  
- \* Water Department: Bob Fagnant
  - \*\* Bob reported that Todd Moulton has requested water at his property on Airport Road. Bob has his application. The hook-up will be this Friday. Rich made a motion to approve his request for water, which Dennis seconded and the commissioners approved. Bob will collect the \$800 access fee on Friday.

\*\* Bob has taken some classes already but needs five more contact hours by the end of the year to maintain his certification. He may have to pay for the classes but the certification will be good for two years. The commissioners need to be thinking of a replacement for Bob as he looks at retirement in the next couple of years. Bob said that Mt. Lakes will be looking for a new water operator and an option might be to get one person who could do both Mt. Lakes and North Haverhill. Haverhill Corner uses Dan Boutin.

\*\* At one of his trainings, Bob picked up some information on water loans. Dennis said that he is still not finished with the loan paperwork at WGSB. Jon Hobbs has been on vacation. One idea that Bob thought might be worth considering was to install a solar array in the field above Cold Spring.

\*\* Water usage was high yesterday at 102,000 gallons. Bob said he measured the water level at Blaisdell's gravel pit and it was at 52.7 feet, down from last year.

\*\* There is a problem with one of the pumps at Cold Spring. It's pumping 150 gallons/min, which is too much. Bob said he would have Eli Roy try to adjust it if that was OK with the commissioners. It was OK with them.

\*\* Mountain Milk is drawing a lot of water from the hydrant at the middle school. We need to know how much they are taking and what they are doing with it. They are reselling the water and we are only getting the \$2.50 per thousand gallons. Sarah said she would email them and ask them how much they are taking from the hydrant, how they plan to pay for it and how are they monitoring the usage.

\*\* The meter reader quit working. It was sent to Ty-Sales and can't be repaired. They will loan us one until the commissioners decide whether to buy a refurbished one (\$249 with a one-month warranty) or buy a new one for \$1195 with a one-year warranty. Bob said he would not be reading the meters next week because he is going on vacation. We might be a week or two late with the water bills. Rob Longo is going to be doing the billing. Rich told Bob to get a loaner until the commissioners decide which option they want to pursue.

\*\* The reservoirs were last drained and cleaned in 2016, and Bob said they should be done every five years. It will take him about two days to do each one with a total cost somewhere around \$4000. The commissioners decided to budget for it to be done next year.

\*\* We have one deicer that is broken and one working. A new one cost \$703 plus shipping. The last time one broke, we had it repaired at a cost of \$228 and it lasted four years. Sarah said we have the money to buy a new one so Dennis made a motion to buy a new deicer. Rich seconded the motion and the commissioners approved it.

\*\* Bob reported that one of the original pumps from 2003 is leaking. We have one new pump available if they want to change it. We would need a crane and a pump guy to do the work. The roof was modified so that it can be opened and the pump installed as a whole unit. Bob will contact Phil Laramie to see if he can repack the pump. Rich asked Bob to also get an estimate from him on changing the pump.

\*\* Bob told the commissioners that they should consider replacing the water line from the pump station to Benton Road along Cold Spring Drive. We have had two major breaks there in the last few years. Bob figured it would cost at least \$150,000 but there might be some grant money available to help cover the cost. Bob will check.

\*\* Shutoffs need to be replaced at Forest Street, Theda Fortier's and the industrial park. Bob needs a cutoff saw to do these and he'll check with Steve Robbins to see if he has one.

\*\* The hydrants still need to be painted. Phil Blanchard has the paint. Sgt. Griffin from the GCDOC knows to contact Phil to coordinate when the work can be done.

\*\* Susan Hastings has been responding to Sarah's emails so we may be making some progress there. The water is still shut off.

\*\* Bob said that the hatch at the pump station needs to be insulated and he said he would do it using a piece of Styrofoam.

\*\* Sarah noted that the email address, [water@northhaverhill.com](mailto:water@northhaverhill.com) now goes to Bob as well as her. [Office@northhaverhill.com](mailto:Office@northhaverhill.com) goes just to her.

\*\* Bob reported that a tree fell down on Airport Road close to the pump station. Rich instructed Bob to ask the town about it.

\*\* Bob said that the grass at the pump station has not been mowed since the beginning of August when he did it. There is also a hydrant at 181 Benton Road that is hidden by the tall grass. Sarah said she was emailing Phil right then.

\* Bookkeeper: Sarah Tucker

\*\* The commissioners reviewed and signed the monthly manifest. Sarah stated that Eversource is now being paid automatically because the payments were always running late if we waited and approved the bills at a precinct meeting.

\*\* Sarah asked Cheryl if she was able to find any information from the county register of deeds concerning notification of property transfers. She found out that the county sends that information to the town so we will check with the town to see if that information might be shared with us.

\*\* Sarah checked with Greg Colby to see how he is progressing with the reconstruction of our past financial records. It is taking Sarah a lot of time trying to keep on top of this as well as her bookkeeping duties. Between paying Mr. Colby, Cara Kimball as well as herself, we are surely going to be way over budget.

\*\* Dennis signed the contract with Rob Longo to do the water billing. Bob will read the meters. That information will be inputted to Rob, who will do the billing. The cost is \$3.60 per customer. Rob will deal with any problems that pop up with Bob's assistance. When our 'situation' is settled, Sarah will take over the billing.

\*\* Budget season is here. Sarah said she would try to break large accounts down into smaller pieces so spending will be easier to follow.

\*\* Dennis asked Sarah if we had received any rent money from the town for the fire station. She will research and email Dennis.

\* Other:

\*\* Bob said he would let Harold Clough know that he was going to be out of town so he could cover any problems.

There was no further discussion and Rich made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. Cheryl seconded the motion and the commissioners approved it. The next meeting will be on October 19, 2021, 5:30 PM at the church.

Respectfully submitted,  
John. E. Page, Clerk