

WEST NEWBURY BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MARCH 28, 2024
10:00 A.M. WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE

Commissioners present: Bob Janes, Chair, Jack Duggan and Larry Corcoran
Mark Marlowe Superintendent and Jodi Bertrand, Administrative Assistant

Rob Phillips, Finance Committee
Angus Jennings, Town Manager and Rick Parker

Meeting called to order at 10:01

Duggan apologized to Jennings for comments made at FinCom Meeting regarding the Commissioners Stipends. He was unaware that Jennings had sent local town stipends information for towns in the area last year.

Water Rates-: Duggan went over comparison bills using different conservation rate ratios. He also had a chart showing gallons consumed using 1.67BR vs. 1.21BR. The data information for schools and childcare should be looked into further. Duggan spoke with BOH and will find out more information on this.

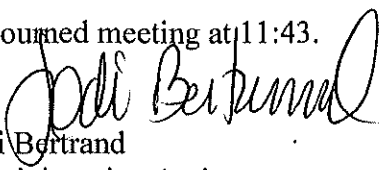
Duggan passed out the draft water rate change flier to discuss.

Phillips suggested doing a 3 month billing in July at the old rate and then the October billing at the new rate. In-between this time the flier can be sent and the water customers will be able to see how much more the new rates affect them before the full 6 month billing are sent out. Phillips also suggested sending a simple rate increase one page flier in the billing Bertrand is doing now and will be sent April 5th. Then work to have the more in-depth flier ready to send out before the rates are increased in the October bill. Conversation started regarding fire suppression/supply to hydrants. Jennings added that if the town was to take over some capital expenses then the Water Enterprise structure would need to be changed. Jennings asked if the WC were available to attend meeting Monday, April 1st at 5:30 p.m. to go over Weston and Sampson Study/map and spreadsheet to see which sites would be agreeable to ask for funds to be appropriated by the town at Town Meeting.

FY-25 Budget: Phillips mentioned to take a look at the Extraordinary and Unforeseen line item and make sure it is included in bottom line total. Janes brought up the fact that the town is holding the Water Dept budget "hostage" over the BOW stipends. Janes said let the budget go as is and the SB challenge this at the Town Meeting and let the people decide. Parker said he was agreeable to this.

Angus Jennings left the office 11:15.

Adjourned meeting at 11:43.


Jodi Bertrand
Administrative Assistant