

Town of Wilmington
Water & Sewer Commission
September 15th, 2022 Meeting

The Water and Sewer Commission met on September 15, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. Present were, Chairman Michael Camoscio, Commissioner George Allen, Commissioner Robert Lavita, Joseph Lobao, DPW Deputy Director, Diane Forest, DPW Office Manager and Recording Secretary Brianna Dunbar.

Approval of Minutes – August 18, 2022

ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ALLAN IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18, 2022 MEETING.

Billing Adjustments & Correction – None

Abatement Requests - None

Monthly Report

The August 2022 monthly report was submitted to the Commission for review.

Boil Water Order- E Coli

Testing of drinking water is governed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) enacted in the 1970's and entails a list of potential contaminants the water department must test for, and frequency. Wilmington collects approximately 33 samples per month from specified locations throughout town and analyzes for Total Coliform bacteria. This bacteria occurs naturally in the environment, but can be an indicator of E. Coli. E. Coli is a subset of Total Coliform and can potentially be harmful. The general sampling timeline for the boil water order follows,

- Tuesday 9/6:
Routine Sample taken at Hillside Way Tank
- Wednesday 9/7:
Results, TC+/E- Water Treatment then resampled the Hillside Tank, upstream site, and downstream site.
- Thursday 9/8:
Results: TC+/E+ UPSTREAM SITE ONLY. Resample RND 1 Tank, Upstream and Downstream. We then isolated the Hillside Way Tank from the water distribution system. MassDEP issued boil water order.
- Friday 9/9:
Results: SYSTEM TC-/E- TANK TC+/E--and then resampled RND 2.
- Saturday 9/10:
Results: System TC-/E—
Tank: TC-/E—
Boil Water worder was lifted. The Water Department kept the Hillside Way Tank isolated and resampled again. On Sunday, 9/11, the tank was still TC+.

On Thursday, September 8th, when we received the test results of the positive bacteria, the Water Department took immediate action. The Board of Health started notifying schools, restaurants, health care facilities, and nursing homes. At 2pm, the MassDEP issued the “official” boil water order. The town sent out a reverse 911 phone call, along with an electronic sign at Rotary Park. The advisory was also posted to The Town of Wilmington’s town website, Twitter and Facebook. The Hillside Way Tank was immediately isolated from the water distribution system. The MWRA sent out drones to inspect the tank for any possible exterior defects. School was canceled Friday, September 9th. The boil water order was lifted Saturday morning, September 10th, 2022. A plan was set in place hire a third party, independent contractor to inspect and disinfect the Hillside Way tank. MassDEP and the MWRA will be involved to ensure regulatory compliance. The tank will be reintroduced to the system after two consecutive negative results for Total Coliform.

Drought Conditions/MWRA Request for Water

Like most of the state of Massachusetts, the Northeast region remains in Level 3- Critical Drought. The Town of Wilmington has been purchasing MWRA water due to the level 3 drought and the impact to Town wells. The Town has requested to purchase additional water from the MWRA, as it has reached the annual limit of 219 million gallons. As of this meeting, the Town has not received the official and formal approval, but the MWRA has verbally informed the Town that it is forthcoming.

Nassau Avenue Water Storage Tank (WST) Demolition

J.R. Vinagro Corportation is planning to start the demolition of the Nassau Avenue WST within the next 3 weeks. The expected length of time to complete the demolition is approximately 4 weeks. Residents who live in the area near the Nassau Avenue Water Storage Tank will be notified.

Sargent Water Treatment Plant (WTP) GAC Replacement- Transfer of Funds

The public bid opening for the replacement of the granular activated carbon at the Sargent WTP was held on August 10th. The town received two bids as follows:

- Carbon Activated Corporation \$149,651.12
- Calgon Carbon Corporation \$201,557.44

Carbon Activated subsequently informed the DPW they can no longer honor their bid as supplies are not available. The town will now move on to Calgon Carbon Corporation. After receiving approval from the MADEP, the carbon will be split between the Butters Row and Sargent plant as supplies are limited during this time. Once this is completed, both treatment plants will have brand new carbon by the end of December 2022.

The amount budgeted for the replacement is \$260,000. Deputy Director Lobao stated that a transfer of funds would be necessary to cover the cost of the GAC replacement. ON A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER ALLAN SECODED BY COMMISSIONER LAVITA IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO TRANSFER \$100,000 FROM THE WATER-7 UTILITY TRUCK REPLACEMENT TO THE SARGENT WTP GAC REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

Other Business

None

Public Comment Period - None

Next Meeting - The next meeting is scheduled to be held on October 20th, 2022.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn carries at 6:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Brianna Dunbar, Recording Secretary

