

**TOWN OF SOMERS
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

**MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2013
7:30 PM TOWN HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Botellio at 7:30 pm. Members present were Charles Colby, Dan Fraro, James Faust, Stephen Getman, George VanTasel, and Mark Marschall. Also present was Steve Jacobs, Town Sanitarian.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A few typos needed to be corrected in sections 6 and 7. The word “the” was used twice and the roman numeral was duplicated. Section 7 should have the wording “PCE levels”. The word February was spelled wrong in the heading.

A motion was made by Colby to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded by Faust, all in favor motion carried.

III. SOMERVILLE WPCF REPAIRS

Steve Jacobs gave an update on the repairs. We are still waiting on the sluice gate and safety grates to come in. Steve got several quotes regarding the Bioxide. The cost is \$2.55 a gallon to fill the 2,000 gallon tank, plus installation. Steve recommended not going with any of the quotes at this time, as we are looking into other options. He is still considering using the CaNi fertilizer.

A test was run and found no dumping of petroleum products but there is consistent high ammonia levels being found. There was a brief discussion regarding what could be causing the high ammonia levels. Commission members suggested cleaning products being disposed of could be the cause. Steve will check out a few places of business to see if they could possibly be disposing of cleaning agents, etc. and see what he finds out.

IV. WELL WATER ARSENIC SURVEY

Steve Jacobs reported the most recent samples came back. No new areas of arsenic were found. A few more wells around Northwest Drive tested above the drinking water standard.

The DEEP sent a letter summarizing their opinion regarding the arsenic in town. The explanation included reasons why they think the arsenic is naturally occurring and from the bedrock, not an agricultural source.

Janice Gaskell of 200 Watchaug Road was present in the audience for comment on this topic. She feels more research needs to be done on the arsenic in the wells. She has been in contact with Lisa Pellegrini, First Selectman on this matter. Mrs. Gaskell would like the DEEP and the town to continue looking for answers regarding where the arsenic originated.

Steve commented that so far the test results that have come back appear to confirm what DEEP has told the town.

The state has sent revised recommendations on arsenic and uranium. The state is recommending that all homeowners should have their wells tested.

V. PRIVATE WELL ORDINANCE

Steve Jacobs presented the commission members with a draft titled "Testing of Water Quality in Private Water Supply Systems for New Construction". The draft was based on the current health code and current needs of the town. Commission members reviewed, discussed and made a few revisions during the meeting. The revised draft will be sent to the state and the town attorney for review. A public hearing will be held for citizens to give their input.

A motion was made by Colby to accept the Well Ordinance draft as modified and send to the state and town attorney for review. Seconded by Faust, all in favor, motion carried.

VI. SOMERSVILLE 2013-2014 O&M BUDGET

Commission members reviewed and discussed the budget draft as presented by Steve Jacobs. There was a 2.46 increase in the budget this year. The new budget is estimated at \$86,250.00

A motion was made by Colby to accept the budget as proposed. Seconded by Van Tassel. Getman and Botellio had to abstain. All other commission members were in favor. Motion was passed.

VII. MAPLE RIDGE 2013-2014 O&M BUDGET

Steve Jacobs presented the commission with the Maple Ridge budget draft. There was a 38% increase in the budget due to tank cleaning and lab testing. The commission members discussed ways to cut down on cost. Commission members agreed to take \$2,000.00 out of the surplus account to help lower the user rate. The budget is proposed at \$13,894.00.

A motion was made by Colby to accept the proposed budget with \$2,000.00 being taken out of surplus. Seconded by Marschall, all in favor, motion carried.

A motion was by made by Colby to set the public hearing for the O&M budgets to be held at the next meeting, April 2nd, at 7:15. Seconded by Faust, all in favor, motion carried.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE/AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Steve Jacobs received correspondence from DEEP regarding 22 Bittersweet Dr. The well on this property has elevated levels of PCE. The homeowner informed the state they have already put in a filtration system. The state DOC will increase monitoring of wells in this area.

Steve also gave a brief update on delinquent sewer accounts. The outstanding delinquent balance is ~\$16,007.00. Assessment charges total is ~\$2300.00. The majority of these are accounts that will be in the tax sale in May if not collected.

IX. BILLS/TRANSFERS

Huntington Power Equipment - \$699.96

Environmental Monitoring Labs - \$160.50 and \$562.00

Phoenix Labs - \$60.00 and \$60.00

A motion was made by Colby to pay accept and pay the above bills. Seconded by Getman, all in favor, motion carried.

Transfers were as follows:

\$8700.00 from Somerville Assessment to the General Fund for Goodwin Drive sewer ext.

\$7898.22 from Water Assessment to General Fund for new connections

\$3600.00 from Somerville/Maple Ridge O&M accounts to the General Fund for bill collection.

A motion was made by Colby to approve the above transfers. Seconded by Getman, all in favor, motion carried.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Faust to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. Seconded by Fraro, all in favor, motion carried.