



**TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
WATER DEPARTMENT**

1 Russell Stage Rd  
Blandford, MA 01008  
413.848.4279 x 304

**Water Commissioners**

Brad Curry  
Michael Keier  
Peter Thayer

**Water Superintendent**

Gordon Avery

**MEETING MINUTES  
BLANDFORD WATER COMMISSION  
JUNE 1, 2023  
4:30 P.M.**

**1. OPEN SESSION:**

Meeting Opened at 4:47 P.M.

In Attendance: B. Curry, Chairman, M. Keier, Member, G. Avery, Water Superintendent, Mariusz D. Jedrychowski, PE, Wright & Pierce, K. Shaw, Administrative Assistant.

Meeting is being recorded.

**2. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

**a. Review of Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2023.**

**MOTION:** B. Curry made a motion to accept the Minutes of May 11, 2023, as written.

**M. Keier Seconded.**

**All in Favor.**

**3. ACTION ITEMS:**

**a. No Action Items.**

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:**

**a. Wright & Pierce Update on Projects.**

Mariusz Jedrychowski appeared before the Water Commission to review his report regarding the Blandford Water System Capital Improvement Plan. This is basically funded through the Mass. DEP Clean Water Fund, part of which is a grant and part which is a loan. He is submitting a draft report to the Commission for their review and to separate phases into a short term plan, intermediate plain and long term plan with emphasis on distribution, storage, the pump station and the water treatment plant.

It is suggested an ozone plan be initiated as there have been and are current issues relating to ozone.

Mr. Jedrychowski went over the basic plans. A copy of the phases and estimated cost for each is attached as part of these minutes.

Ultimately, once reviewed and a structured format is formulated it will need to be submitted to the DEP. Related funding will need to be procured and Wright Pierce advised they have a funding manager who could be called in to help with the funding portion of the plan. Once all is in place, it can be sent to the state.

**b. Water Department Vehicle Update**

Brad Curry updated the Commission on the Highway Department Vehicle. The understanding was the Highway and Water Departments would split repairs prior to the vehicle coming to the Water Department. Agreement was made prior to the winter however the Highway Department used the vehicle through the winter and at the end of the season it was in need of repairs. The bill amounted to \$2,200 and the Highway Department is requesting half. Appears the Water Department had already given the Highway Department funds for repairs prior to the Highway Department's use during the winter. The initial deal was the Water Department put out the funds for the repairs in the understanding they would get it prior to the winter. Brad will talk with Dave Waldron about this situation. The original bill was \$5,968.18 and the Water Department paid \$2,984.09 and have not had use of the truck. It is proposed refund the original money paid (\$2,984.09) and the Water Department will split the present repairs. Brad will work with the Highway Department on this.

Karen updated the Commission relative to the Water Department trailer as she is unable to register it without a title. She has been in touch with MIIA and they are working on the best way to get this accomplished. This initially was a Fire Department trailer. Brad Curry contacted the Fire Department during the meeting and asked them to contact Karen and give her any information they may have, specifically the registration, so she can register the trailer and it can then be used by the Water Department.

**c. Water Meter Project Update**

Karen talked with Mike Burden of Team EJP and advised him the present metering situation is unacceptable and that new equipment and on site support will be required to get this project off the ground. In the discussion with Mike she was advised that some Changes through the Town software may be a help by adding a "P" for Neptune readers and a "B" for Sensus readers prior to the next read. She was told that Neptune readers start with the letter P followed by 10 digits while Sensus meters start with a B followed by 8 digits. Mike advised he would get a list of the accounts that need to be changed in the Town's software. Karen will be sure to make this changes in Softright prior to the next reading. Due to the delays and the inability to get the required equipment and lack of support from EJP, Brad Curry will contact EJP to advise the present situation is not acceptable and, in addition, we will not be paying an invoice for \$2,500 for support that has recently been received.

**d. Team EJP Invoice**

The EJP Invoice will be put on hold until the Town receives some sort of satisfaction relative to receiving the necessary support and the needed supplies.



**5. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS:**

**a. SCADA Bids**

SCADA Bids were opened and there was only one bidder. As a result it will be sent up for rebid. Working with Gordon and the budget there will be a reduction of the scope of work.

**b. Water Superintendent Update**

Gordon discussed Bernie St. Martin and the plan for him to train an operator to perform water treatment plant operations. He advised the Commission he will be discussing this with Mr. St. Martin to set up a schedule for this training.

**d. Meeting with Chester Water Commission**

The Chester Water Commission did not attend the meeting. The shared services were discussed by the Blandford Water Commission and due to the attendance of just two of the three commissioners and the two Commissioners in attendance could not agree, it resulted in a no vote.

Karen brought to the Commission a new form for the turning on and shutting off of water for the residents of the Town to be used in order to have accurate information for billing. The form has been accepted by the Commission.


**6. MEETING ADJOURNED**

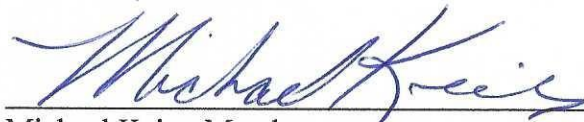
Meeting Adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Shaw, Administrative Assistant  
Water Department

**WATER COMMISSION**

  
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Brad Curry, Chairman

  
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Michael Keier, Member

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Peter Thayer, Member

**Table 6-1 Short Term Improvement Distribution System Projects Cost Estimate**

Project	Components	Justification	Estimated Construction Cost
New Water Storage Tank	Civil Site Work, Water Tank & Appurtenances, Electrical/Instrumentation, Mixing System, Associated Water Main Upgrades	Add Storage to the Water System	\$6,063,600
Replace North Street Booster Pump Station	Demolition, Civil Site Work, Architectural, Process, Mechanical, Electrical & Instrumentation	Replace Undersized Infrastructure	\$2,074,920
Water Main Improvements	Russell Stage Road, Main Street, and Otis Stage Road	Improve Water Quality, Hydraulics, and Provide Fire Flow	\$3,844,620
Develop Valve Exercising and Maintenance Schedule	Scheduling	Promote Longevity of the Distribution System	\$5,000
Develop Hydrant Exercising Schedule	Scheduling	Promote Longevity of the Distribution System	\$2,500
Develop Water Main Flushing Schedule	Scheduling	Improve Water Quality	\$2,500
Evaluate Automatic Dead-End Flushing	Evaluation	Improve Water Quality	\$5,000
<b>Total Estimated Construction Cost</b>			<b>\$11,998,140</b>

**Table 6-2 Short Term Improvement Water Treatment Plant Projects Cost Estimate**

Project	Components	Justification	Estimated Construction Cost
Upgrade Electrical Service	Main Electrical Service Disconnects, Automatic Transfer Switch, Service Feeders, Replace Transformer, Install Underground Service Cables	Meet Building Service Demand	\$178,500
Fire Alarm System Testing	Test Fire Alarm System	Required Annually	\$1,500
Raw Water Intake Evaluation	Evaluation	Improve Raw Water Quality	\$25,000
Evaluate Ozone System for Reactivation, Cleaning, and/or Bypassing	Evaluation by Manufacturer and Wright-Pierce	Improve Water Quality	\$10,000
Develop GAC Maintenance and Replacement Schedule	Schedule	Promote Longevity of Filtration System, Improve Water Quality	\$2,500

Project	Components	Justification	Estimated Construction Cost
Improve GAC Backwash Process	Increase Backwash Pipe Size and Connection	Promote Longevity of Filtration System	\$30,000
Chemical Pump Replacement	Sodium Hypochlorite and Soda Ash Metering Pumps	Promote Operation and Backup	\$40,000
<b>Total Estimated Construction Cost</b>			<b>\$287,500</b>

**Table 6-3 Intermediate Term Improvement Distribution System Projects Cost Estimate**

Street	New Pipe Size & Type	Length (LF)	Cost (\$364/LF <sup>1</sup> )
Chester Road (Pressurized)	8" DI	2,000	\$744,000
North Street (Pressurized)	8" DI	3,250	\$1,209,000
Old Chester Road	8" DI	7,500	\$2,790,000
Maple Lane	8" DI	600	\$223,200
Wyman Road	8" DI	700	\$260,400
Herrick Road	8" DI	1,500	\$558,000
<b>Total Estimated Construction Cost</b>			<b>\$5,784,600</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes construction contingency.

**Table 6-4 Intermediate Term Improvement Water Treatment Plant Projects Cost Estimate**

Project	Components	Justification	Estimated Construction Cost
Replace Standby Power	Generator	Meet Demand Load	\$74,000
Evaluate Reactivation of Aqueous Ammonia System	Evaluation	Improve Water Quality	\$10,000
Evaluate Long Pond Reservoir Watershed Management	Bank Stabilization and Restoration	Reduce Raw Water TSS Loading	\$10,000
Develop Operations and Maintenance Activities and Schedule	Operations and Maintenance Schedule	Improve Water Treatment Process	\$10,000
Replace Components That Have Exceeded Useful Life	Miscellaneous (pumps, valves, piping)	Replace Aging Infrastructure	\$100,000
Miscellaneous Architectural Maintenance	Painting and Patching Surfaces	Maintenance of Existing Building	\$67,900

Project	Components	Justification	Estimated Construction Cost
Miscellaneous HVAC Upgrades	HVAC and Plumbing (Exhaust Fans, Heat Pump Systems, Piping, Emergency Showers)	Update Existing Infrastructure	\$262,200
<b>Total Estimated Construction Cost</b>			<b>\$534,100</b>

**Table 6-5 Long Term Improvement Water Treatment Plant Projects Cost Estimate**

Project	Components	Justification	Estimated Construction Cost
Demolish Existing Storage Tanks	Demolition of Tanks, Soil Characterization		\$150,000
Evaluate Coagulation System Prior to Filtration	Study	Improve Water Quality	\$15,000
Investigate Alternative Water Sources	Desktop Study	Provide Backup Source	\$25,000
<b>Total Estimated Construction Cost</b>			<b>\$190,000</b>