



# TOWN OF LINCOLN

## WATER DEPARTMENT

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WATER DEPARTMENT  
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### WATER COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

May 11, 2016

4:30 PM

Pumping Station – 77 Sandy Pond Road

Attendees: Packy Lawler, Chair  
Ruth Ann Hendrickson, Water Commissioner  
Bob Antia, Water Commissioner  
Thomas DeNormandie, resident

The Commission reviewed and approved the minutes from the April 13, 2016 meeting, as amended.

Superintendent Woods provided a summary of the abatement request submitted by the owners of 8 Bedford Road. According to the owners, the rental property was vacant for a week in February and during this time a pipe froze to the washing machine. The owners submitted documentation regarding the break and subsequent repair. The Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the abatement request.

Next, Commissioner Lawler stated that both he and Commissioner Hendrickson would be presenting a water conservation talk at the Council On Aging's Lincoln Academy presentation series. Commissioner Lawler stated that they would be collaborating on the information prior to the talk and did not think that this violated the Open Meeting Law since no current topics for consideration were going to be discussed. The talk is scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM at Bemis Hall.

Mr. Woods then summarized the status of the draft Agricultural Watering Policy. Mr. Woods said that he did not find any existing commercial agricultural water policies during an on-line search and that he could not draft a policy without further clarification on the Agricultural Committee's proposed agricultural by-law amendments. This proposed by-law would encourage commercial agricultural farming in town on land between 1.84 and five acres but places an upper limit on the proceeds generated on a yearly basis. Mr. Woods stated that it would be better to wait until this by-law is finalized before drafting the accompanying watering policy. Commissioner Antia stated that he had contacted the owners of Linden Farm on Old Concord Road and learned that drip irrigation systems, along with their anticipated water use, can be designed specifically for different vegetables. The owner did not know how much water they used for the drip irrigation system that is on their private well but Commissioner Antia suggested we provide an old meter to the farmer to help determine normal water consumption. An interim watering policy was discussed and the Commissioners unanimously voted to extend to the farmer at 153 Lexington Road a temporary, one-growing cycle exemption of the three-tiered billing rate provided he only

uses drip irrigation techniques. The temporary exemption will limit the water billing to the second billing tier.

Next the Commissioners discussed the proposed shared driveway project for three parcels off Old Winter Street. The Commissioners recognized Mr. Thomas DeNormandie and requested that he explain the driveway and the plans to install a water main to this area. Mr. DeNormandie provided a brief history of the site and the plan to run approximately 480 feet of 8-inch water main from the southern end of Old Winter Street onto the property. Mr. Woods reminded the Commissioners that if this water main is extended northerly on Old Winter Street, it would only need to be extended another 120 feet to connect to the other Old Winter Street dead end. The Commissioners asked Mr. DeNormandie if he would be willing to extend the main to connect the two dead ends as part of this project and Mr. DeNormandie stated that he would have to discuss this with the other project members. Commissioner Hendrickson suggested that if the Department were to pay for the extension of the main, the work should be coordinated with the site developer to reduce the overall cost. Mr. Woods stated that the Department had entered a Memorandum of Agreement with the original owners of The Commons to pay for the cost differential to upsize an 8-inch water main replacement project with a 12-inch water main. Mr. Woods stated that he would research this agreement for more details. The Commission tabled the discussion of the water main extension project until Mr. Woods could provide more information. In the interim the Commissioners asked Mr. Woods to review the existing site plan and if the plan met the Department's requirement, to send Mr. DeNormandie an approval letter.

The Commissioners then reviewed a draft copy of Superintendent Woods' annual performance review. The Commissioners made several revisions to the document prepared by Commissioner Hendrickson. Commissioner Hendrickson stated that she would have a final copy ready for approval at the June meeting.

Mr. Woods then spent several minutes providing updates on several ongoing projects. Mr. Woods stated that he had coordinated with Weston & Sampson Engineers and had developed a water quality sampling plan for both dead ends and distribution system locations to help assess water quality concerns. Next Mr. Woods stated that the Garden Club is considering installing a hydration station at the Peace Garden near Ridge Road and that Mr. Woods offered to donate a meter pit toward the project so that the location is adequately metered. Finally, Mr. Woods asked how he should proceed with the remaining residents that have not responded to the Department's meter replacement request. The topic was discussed and the Board asked Mr. Woods to draft a letter stating that a resident may either have their meter changed, have their water shut-off for non-compliance with the Department's Rules & Regulations, or pay to have a meter pit installed at the edge of the property.

Finally, the Board discussed whether the cedar siding on the treatment plant should be stained a solid color during the upcoming renovation project, or if it should remain natural with a clear coat of stain. The Board unanimously agreed to keep the natural variation in the siding and to have the contractor use a clear coat.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM. The next meeting of the Water Commissioners is scheduled for June 8, 2016 at 4:30 PM at the Pumping Station.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Woods  
Superintendent