

Commissioner Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2025

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm.

All Board members present

The Board reviewed and signed Warrants

Mr. Bursch made a motion to approve the minutes of December 3, 2025, second, all in favor.

The District received an amendment for engineering services from Tighe & Bond for work they had already done. Most of the costs were related to the time spent responding to residents' questions and concerns. The Board discussed whether it should be added to a Warrant at a special meeting or to get paid out of the maintenance budget now. The Board agreed that bills need to be paid immediately for work done and if needed funds could be moved at a later date to cover the cost. Mr. Bursch made a motion to authorize the Superintendent to sign the amendment and pay \$17,500 to Tighe & Bond for services rendered, second, all in favor.

Verdantas provided a quote for well investigation at the Keatings well site. This investigation would help the District find out if a well field would be beneficial to develop. The Board discussed the concerns and benefits of this project. It was decided that it would be best to bring this proposal to the residents and let them decide if the District should move forward with this or not. Mr. Bursch made a motion to add this proposal to the Warrant on the next Water District Special meeting with a date to be determined, second, all in favor.

The Supt. had other items he felt should be added if a Special meeting was to be held. He would like to add the purchase of a rubber tire excavator, and also data collectors for meter reading. He had gotten a quote from Neptune, the company that currently handles all the meter reading, for gateway data collectors. These collectors would be placed on towers around Town and would provide real time meter reads and would be able to notify the District and the residents if they ever had a leak or water running for long lengths of time. The Board agreed this would be very beneficial and would like to see where the best spots in Town would be to place them. The one area that these data collectors couldn't reach is around Hickory Hills. The Supt would look into possible areas where a new tower could be put up. This could be a benefit to the Town fire and police as they could put equipment on it as well.

The District received a non-compliance from MassDEP for not testing PFAS monthly at wells 5 and 2 on Lancaster Ave. Back in July the PFAS results were above the allowable limit and DEP emailed the Supt stating this would trigger monthly testing and they would be sending over an updated sampling plan. The email was not clear as to when this testing should begin and because the District did not receive the new sampling plan till a few days ago no tests had been done over the past few months. The Supt reached out to DEP and will get those required tests done as soon as possible. The District will have to report this non-compliance on the consumer conference report when it is done.

The Supt reviewed the Water Districts map in the conference room and color coded the areas he thinks the District should focus on fixing and updating over the next few years.

The Board agreed they would like to start interviews to hire a new water operator.

The Annual District meeting will be held on Saturday March 28th and if anyone would like to run for Commissioner they will need to come to the office and get nomination papers. Those papers would need to be returned to the Water Clerk by February 19th in order for her to bring them to the Town Clerk and the names and addresses certified.

A resident had expressed some concerns with the community engagement survey. The Supt reviewed it and made some small changes to it. He also confirmed with Tighe & Bond that the operating and maintenance cost they had listed on the survey were correct. The Board agreed the survey needs to go out as soon as possible in order to get feedback from the residents.

Public Comment

Paul Grunditz, 35 John St suggested when we have a Special meeting, in order to get the information out to the resident we should borrow the fire/police sign.

John Fortune, 50 Hemlock Dr suggested the District talk with Proctor, the owner of commercial property on Mass Ave, and maybe he would be willing to help with land needed to install the tower needed for the data collectors.

Meeting adjourned 5:15 p.m.

Minutes by Christina Swinger