



# Chelmsford Water District

20 Watershed Lane • Chelmsford MA 01824-4884 • [www.chelmsfordwater.com](http://www.chelmsfordwater.com)

## CHELMSFORD WATER DISTRICT REGULAR COMMISSIONERS' MEETING September 29, 2022

### **PRESENT:**

Commissioners	John G. Harrington Bill Martin Ron Wetmore
Superintendent	Andy Reid
Business Director/Treasurer	Lisa Quatrale
Environmental Compliance Manager	Todd Melanson
Recording Secretary	Michaela Thompson

Commissioner Martin called the Regular Meeting of the Commissioners to order at 11:30am with all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Open Session:**

Mr. Reid notified the Board of Water Commissioners that the EPA has issued an update under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. In the effort to identify old lead service lines, the state water systems are required to prepare and maintain an inventory of service line materials. The results and plan have to be submitted by October 16, 2024. Further discussion will be needed to determine the best course of action. Currently, if the district doesn't already have on file what material the service line to a home is made of, then an on-site basic/visual examination will be necessary. Although this may be the easiest method for the district, it also means gaining access to the service line located in the home.

### **John Harrington:**

Commissioner Harrington said that he has two paint samples to choose from for the 2019 Ford Escape VIN 35143, once the auto body finishes the necessary repairs. He also would like Operations to look into painting the hydrants on Fletcher Street.

### **Action Items:**

Ms. Quatrale presented the current budget along with the projected next three fiscal years, showing year over year, all anticipated percentage increases. The Board of Water Commissioners examined the projected budgets, line by line. Mr. Reid and Ms. Quatrale answered questions and provided detailed explanations on the increases to costs. Based on current rates, an anticipated deficit of the FY24 budget and beyond was evident. Discussion ensued over rate increases with all agreeing that a rate increase was necessary to stay in line with the operational budget.

**Commissioner Wetmore made a motion to raise the FY23 water rates on January 1, 2023 by 13%. Commissioner Harrington seconded the motion. The Commissioners voted as follows: Mr. Harrington, Aye, Mr. Martin, Aye and Mr. Wetmore, Aye. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Discussion continued regarding an increase to the District's Infrastructure Fees. The Commissioners reviewed the analysis given by Mr. Reid and Ms. Quatrala, with questions asked and answered.

Mr. Reid pointed out that now is the time to apply for a FEMA grant opportunity with respect to the Watershed Lane Culvert replacement. If successfully, FEMA will match 90% of the cost. It looks very promising but a decision won't be made until April 2023.

**Commissioner Harrington made a motion to raise the Infrastructure Fee to \$35.00 starting January 1, 2023. Commissioner Wetmore seconded the motion. The Commissioners voted as follows: John Harrington, Aye, Bill Martin, Aye and Ron Wetmore, No. The motion passed 2-1.**

**Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Harrington. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wetmore. The Commissioners voted as follows: Mr. Martin, Aye, Mr. Wetmore, Aye and Mr. Harrington, Aye. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:10pm

Michaela Thompson  
Recording Secretary