



# DEDHAM-WESTWOOD WATER DISTRICT

## General Business Meeting

### Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, July 10, 2024 | 6:30 PM

#### Announcement of the Audio and/or Video Recording

The Chair, Mark Phillips, called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m. and announced the meeting would be audio- and video-recorded.

#### Attendance

Mark Phillips, Chair

Eric Merithew, Vice-Chair

Louis Kustwan, Clerk

John Healy, Member

Robert Lexander, Member

Blake Lukis, Executive Director & Assistant Treasurer

Bob Marsh, Business Manager

Pauline Donoghue, Treasurer

Steve Locke, Operations Manager

#### Also in Attendance

Mary Chehwan, Owner of 32 Orchard Street in Dedham

#### Absence

Gary Yessaillian, Member

#### Roll-Call Attendance

Messrs. Phillips, Merithew, Kustwan, Healy, Lexander Present.

Mr. Phillips confirmed a quorum present.

#### Public Participation

After Mr. Phillips instructed the public participants on meeting protocol, none chose to address the Board at this time.

#### Approval of Minutes of June 12, 2024

Mr. Phillips requested for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 12, 2024. A motion was made by Mr. Merithew to approve the minutes as reviewed for June 12, 2024; Mr. Lexander seconded the motion. With no additional discussion necessary, a roll-call vote was taken.

Roll-Call: Messrs. Phillips, Merithew, Kustwan, Healy, and Lexander voted Aye.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### Financials and Warrant

### Treasurer's Report

Ms. Donoghue presented Warrants 44-49 for activity from June 19<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, noting that Warrant 49 includes two wires for District MCWT bond principal and interest payments, as well as additional large payments. One check was missing; it was determined the check was inadvertently shredded, confirming all checks now accounted for.

### **Business Manager Report**

#### Business Operating Reports

Mr. Marsh informed that May results have been completed, to be reviewed to then post on Basecamp and report to the Board.

### **Operations Manager Report**

Mr. Locke stated he provided the report in advance, reiterating:

#### Pumping and Operational Report

Pumpage – The plant was off the weekend of June 30<sup>th</sup>

MWRA water usage was increased from June 16<sup>th</sup>

Main & Service Lines – Leak detection had not found the four 1970 plastics breaks

Leak Detection – Finished at the end of May

Eight service line breaks and two main breaks are being repaired

Three service line breaks remain to be repaired

Hydrants' repairs have also been addressed

#### Update on New & Existing Projects

- Brookfield/Beacon/Gay/Mill – Westwood
  - Westwood has begun paving
- Shutdown of Bridge Street
  - Completed
    - Chemical cleaning
    - Washdown
- Sandy Valley Tank
  - 0.1 chlorine residual
    - Procured Utility Services Group
      - Dosed six gallons sodium hypochlorite
        - Hope to get to a reasonable 0.5 residual
        - This has occurred previously

Referring to the leaks of the 1970s plastic pipes, Mr. Lexander informed that the pipes are thin, similar to a sprinkler system. Riverside Drive in Dedham services had already been replaced. He described the services still at Weatherbee Estates and Islington, and suggested the District intern check records for the remaining plastics locations. Mr. Locke confirmed all are being renewed. Mr. Lexander stated the reasons for the Sandy Valley tank levels.

Further discussion included area repairs, Sandy Valley tank levels, and District records.

## **Executive Director Report**

### Contracts Signed by ED

Three contracts were signed by the Executive Director since the last meeting, and uploaded to Basecamp:

- Weston & Sampson task order for painting and piping construction administration at High Rock and MWRA
- Second variable message board – 100% Dedham Savings Bank grant secured
- Weston & Sampson task order for Bridge Street based on last Board meeting input

### Action on Task Order 152

#### – Construction Administration of East Street and Martin Bates Water Main Replacements

Mr. Lukis informed that the revised version, based on Board comments, of Weston & Sampson's task order for construction administration of East Street and Martin Bates' water replacements construction project has been Basecamp-uploaded.

Mr. Phillips asked if added time is anticipated; Mr. Lukis explained why the task order is fee-based for time changes and expenses.

With no additional discussion necessary, Mr. Merithew read the Task Order 152 motion:

The Dedham-Westwood Water Commissioners vote to approve Task Order No. 152 to provide construction administration engineering services for the East Street and Martin Bates Street Water Main Replacements between Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc. and the Dedham-Westwood Water District for the not to exceed price of \$134,900. Further, that the Executive Director be authorized to sign the agreement.

Mr. Lexander seconded the motion, and a roll-call vote was taken.

Roll-Call: Messrs. Phillips, Merithew, Kustwan, Healy, and Lexander voted Aye.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **\*Old/New Business\***

Mr. Lukis informed that the second Dedham Water Resources Advisory Committee meeting was held last night. He presented for the District and shared the presentation on Basecamp. The presentation was well-received, with attendees appreciating learning more of the District and asking questions; additional questions will be received at the next meeting. Another presenter is scheduled for the next meeting. Board Members commented on the informative presentation, Mr. Lexander suggesting it should be posted on the District website. In response to Mr. Merithew's request, Mr. Lukis will forward the meetings schedule.

Mr. Merithew inquired if the lead service survey is on-track. Mr. Lukis responded that it is continuing and inventory will be submitted, with some unknowns. Two District personnel have been in on Saturdays to schedule surveys. Answering Mr. Merithew, Mr. Lukis informed the outside contractor is still onboard. Approximately 12 lead services have been found; funds are appropriated in the Capital budget for the lead service line inventory project.

Discussion was held regarding service replacement cost, funding, project bidding, ten-year deadline, District-provided filtration, DEP & EPA directives, and insurance coverage.

Mr. Healy referred to the chat text from a public participant regarding the garage project:

00:27:45 maryluzchehwan: Good Afternoon,  
00:29:26 maryluzchehwan: I would like an update regarding the project next to my property. I can't unmute so can you please give me an update  
00:37:17 maryluzchehwan: Can someone please answer my question?

Mr. Lukis answered that the project is out for bid; trades sub-bids under Chapter 149 are due next Tuesday and the general project bids are due July 31st. At the August meeting, the proposed contractor will be recommended.

Mr. Merithew relayed that the public participant is asking if the State permit has been received for the garage project:

00:49:19 maryluzchehwan: Did you get already the permit from the state?  
00:49:53 maryluzchehwan: Excuse me  
00:50:06 maryluzchehwan: Do you have the permit from the state?  
00:50:48 maryluzchehwan: I can't  
00:51:23 maryluzchehwan: ok  
00:51:27 maryluzchehwan: thanks

Mr. Lukis answered that the building permits will be pulled once the contractor is selected and awarded the project. Mr. Healy suggested to the public participant who cannot unmute themselves that they attend a District posted meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

The next District Board hybrid meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30pm.

Mr. Phillips requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Lexander to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Healy, and a roll-call vote was taken.

Roll-Call: Messrs. Phillips, Merithew, Kustwan, Healy, and Lexander voted Aye.

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Travers Reynolds  
Recording Secretary