

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE LYNNFIELD CENTER WATER DISTRICT

The regular meeting of the Board was held on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria at the Lynnfield Middle School at 505 Main Street, Lynnfield. Present were Commissioners Chairwoman Constance Leccese, Richard Lamusta, Superintendent Kenneth Burnham, Treasurer James Alexander, Water Foreman Nick Couris, and Christine Smallenberger, Clerk of the Board. .

The board waited to begin the meeting to see if more members of the District were to attend as there was currently only 2 ratepayers in attendance (please refer to the attached sign-in sheet).

The Meeting was called to order at 6:48 PM.

Chairwoman Leccese made a motion to sign the public relations contract with John Guilfoil Public Relations LLC for PR support and the creation of a new website. The motion was seconded and approved.

Clerk Smallenberger mentioned homeowner at 57 Parsons Ave was supposed to show up to fight 2 water ban fines, each fine for \$100. The homeowner was not in attendance at the meeting. The Board voted to give 90 days to the homeowner at 57 Parsons Ave. to show up or we will lien the account.

Operations report:

Foreman Couris reported since the last board meeting (October 9, 2018) the District has flushed for the last 2 weeks and is getting solid results. We have received good feedback from customers. The process is giving us good results. The Results we have received show a decrease in iron and manganese. We hope to do 1 more round of flushing before water freezes possibly late November or December and then flush again in the spring. Chairwoman Leccese asked if we have received complaints. Foreman Couris said we had a few that were not susceptible but feedback was positive. We found a valve that was closed, we don't know how long and hopefully that will alleviate in the distribution system.

Superintendent Burnham remarked everything is going well. The water is clearer. People are questioning why there is a problem as they don't see a problem. Foreman Couris mentioned we had taken 2 samples at private residents and both results came back under the limits.

Superintendent Burnham said we don't want to drag this on as far as getting the treatment plant on at Glen Drive. The flushing will keep it down to a minimum but eventually we need to get the plant and get it fixed for people in that area. We will continue to look at additional water supply especially augmenting through South Lynnfield. The Board will go to the South Lynnfield Board of Water Commissioners meeting on November 5, 2018 to review the proposed study from Tata & Howard. Superintendent Burnham began to explain to the 2 gentlemen in attendance about the study to augmenting the water supply. We have to study the compatibility of ground water to surface water. This could take up to 4 years, we have to go through the DEP and MWRA has a litany of questions that we need to go through. The form/study will take about 3 years and

then the construction part is another 2 years and mixing the water may not be compatible. We only need water in the summertime to augment to eliminate the water ban. Our ph is 7.5 and theirs is 9/9.5.

Angela Moulton introduced herself to those in attendance as the engineer with CDM Smith and that she works with the district and is here to assist in answering any questions.

Mr. Zaheer said he moved to Joseph's Lane 2 years ago and noticed the hardness was an issue as his skin is more sensitive but he has never had a problem with his water. Mr. Zaheer had no idea about the discoloration but from time to time has yellowish water occasional after the hydrant flushing and the water goes away after several minutes. Mr. Zaheer noticed that we publish on a weekly basis the iron and manganese results and wants to understand the flushing process. Superintendent Burnham said we are trying to rip it right off the side of the pipe. Foreman Couris said we move water at a high velocity at the point of 900 gallons per minute, the water moves at such a rate that it scours the pipes and comes off through the Hydrant. Angela Moulton said we start at a clean water source and pull throughout the hydrant and continue through the extremities of the system. Foreman Couris mentioned we have done a ¼ of the system and will be finishing within the next few weeks. We found a closed valve and once we found the closed valve we moved systematically through the system. We will try to flush again as long as weather holds out. The water is not discolored it is elevated iron and manganese and is particulated and sitting on the pipes. The .05 is the secondary MCL and the health standards says .03.

Chairwoman Leccese made a motion to change the November 5, 2018 board meeting to Wednesday November 7, 2018. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Zaheer asked wasn't there supposed to be a vote sometime in October. Superintendent Burnham explained we want to build treatment plant and open the warrant and 30 days from opening the warrant it will close and then have a meeting to vote for expenditures of money. Other members of the District attended prior meetings and did not want a meeting at that time; those individuals wanted more information regarding MWRA options. The District postponed the Special District Meeting and asked CDM to present to the ratepayers MWRA options to include money costs. These options were presented at the September 24, 2018 meeting. You have 8,000 residents and 2700 services would be taxed. We are trying to do the right thing economically as well as provide good water and get the treatment plant on board within the next year and a half. Mr. Zaheer asked would the wells only be good for 10 years? Superintendent Burnham said a study was done but was misinterpreted. The District is in the Ipswich River basin and a study was done that concluded if each community continues to build at the current percentage rate then by the year of 2030 Lynnfield should be looking for a supplemental supply. Lynnfield will not grow any further unless Lynnfield votes to take on the golf course. There are only 2 small pieces of properties that (between the 2 properties) will only yield about 20 additional homes. We are trying to keep rates low and provide good water. If we need an additional water supply we may only need 2%.

Mr. Zaheer asked who pays for this \$4 million. Superintendent Burnham said the ratepayers pay, not the whole town just the District. Angela Moulton referred to the poster that shows the

estimated rates. We estimate an average house pays \$140 and with the change of rate structure the increase would be over \$500 per year assuming an annual inflation of 2% per year. Mr. Zaheer asked is there a possibility to distribute to all of Lynnfield instead of the 2800 people? Superintendent Burnham said the other part of Lynnfield is on MWRA. Mr. Zaheer did not know that. Superintendent Burnham replied the Lynnfield Water District (LWD) wants us to pay \$100,000 for a study to make sure we don't overtax their system. To get our own pipeline we would have to go to Saugus town line with a big entrance fee. Mr. Zaheer asked so \$20 million for 300 families impacted? Foreman Couris responded where we are flushing consists of 300-400 households, the houses impacted are 40 or less. The customers that actually complained about discoloration are 40 houses or less. Angela Moulton showed a map to Mr. Zaheer to show the Glen Drive location, District land, flushing locations and where the complaints are coming from. Foreman Couris said the treatment plant will help everyone. We withdraw water from 2 basins, the Ipswich River basin and the North Coastal Basin. We can take more water out of the North Coastal Basin and are looking for more wells. Right now the MWRA doesn't have restrictions but it could in the future. Mr. Zaheer expressed the concern that 2800 families are footing the bill, why is all of Lynnfield not footing the bill. Superintendent Burnham explained there are 2 separate districts and 2 separate enabling acts. Our District continued to grow and parts of Lynnfield weren't in our District and then were voted in the District by the people. Chairwoman Leccese stated other than being in same town we supply our own water. LWD was originally on Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) water and moved to MWRA. All LWD does is buy water from MWRA; they do not treat the water. Mr. Zaheer asked why didn't we buy Pocahontas Water. Commissioner Lamusta said it wouldn't make a difference, we are only allowed so much water even though it comes from the same place.

Superintendent Burnham would like to have one more informational meeting and then set a date for the Special District Meeting. The Warrant will be open for 30 days and within the 30 days you can submit what you want. We publish the warrant once it closes. Article 1 is to elect a moderator. The District does not have a quorum number and majority rules. There will be plenty of information sent out in a mailer with the costs associated with the treatment plant. We bring people from the registers office to determine if the voters are in the district. Mr. Zaheer asked what is the board recommending. Superintendent Burnham said the District wants the treatment plant and at the same time we want to move forward with the tie in to swinging the valves. Mr. Zaheer asked how long for the project to be completed. Superintendent Burnham said best case scenario is 18 months. Angela Moulton responded if the treatment plant is voted in we need months to plan, design and construction and the plant should be online in 2020. The MWRA needs a hydraulic analysis and permitting processes so it extends the timeline. Foreman Couris said the treatment plant will be done significantly sooner. Superintendent Burnham again mentioned having 1 more informational meeting at the next meeting (October 22nd meeting). The warrant would close after Thanksgiving and have the meeting maybe the 2nd week of December. Chairwoman Leccese mentioned sending a mailer to inform all ratepayers regarding the options for voting. Foreman Couris said we will condense the information and put the full presentation on the website. Mr. Zaheer asked if we have limits on the North Coastal Basin. Foreman Couris said we can only take what we are permitted to take. Angela Moulton

added the District has enough water it is just the summer months. Chairwoman Leccese said we want the mailer to be comprehensive and very clear there is no hidden agenda. Mr. Zaheer said he is in real estate and people are concerned. The properties in town are not cheap and we could take a big hit. Superintendent Burnham said we had the system mapped so we can come up with a plan to do the directional flushing. We always did low flow flushing but have purchased new equipment for high velocity flushing. Mr. Zaheer asked does the greensand filter pull out the iron and manganese of the system. Foreman Couris responded yes. Mr. Zaheer asked does it make sense to do a study in the area with the people with problems and with the piping. Foreman Couris said we can't drill up the pipes; we look at the water quality in the system at these houses. We had tested those homes as long as we can take a point of entry sample and the results came back very good. The relationships with the homeowners degraded as they weren't happy with the results. They expected the results to be higher. Angela Moulton explained a point-of-entry sample is where the District ties into the house, as soon as you go in the house you don't know if there is something wrong in their house. Foreman Couris said the responsibility of the District ends at the water meter. We were testing at the area per the homeowner's request but that program has since ended due to deteriorating relationships with the homeowners. Chairwoman Leccese mentioned the District is also offering a rebate. Mr. Zaheer said the rebate is nowhere near what the cost for a filter is. Foreman Couris responded the high estimates these folks are getting includes water softeners. Foreman Couris mentioned to him we have a reverse 911 system. Superintendent Burnham explained we list the streets we are flushing each day. All the pipes in Lynnfield center water are cement lined and contains no lead. Chairwoman Leccese further mentioned the District reinstated the fluoride and put in the warrant not to take out Fluoride for 5 years because of the cost associated with reinstating the Fluoride. Mr. Zaheer asked if it make sense to spend less money and go back to the households affected, maybe do a little digging. Superintendent Burnham said it comes from the iron and manganese in the wells from the rockwells. There is no way to isolate the system. It becomes a suspended material in the pipe. The homes affected are close to that pump station. Foreman Couris responded the ebb and flow is always moving in different directions; it sits in the pipeline because the flow is so little. Mr. Zaheer asked is it just dirt. Foreman Couris responded it is the iron and manganese which occurs naturally and is in every ground water system and you need to flush the system. It has been 20+ years that has caused the problem. Chairwoman Leccese said this plant will improve the performance of Glen Drive and that area and all of the District. Mr. Zaheer mentioned he has a few bidets that are expensive and one day one stopped working because of hard deposits in the water. Superintendent said because it is ground water. Mr. Zaheer asked if he needs a water softener. Foreman Couris said on a hardness scale it is medium to medium hard water because it is ground water. Treasurer Alexander recommended purchasing CLR.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the prior meeting, September 24, 2018. The motion was seconded and approved.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,