

PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD

The 399th meeting of the Pawtucket Water Supply Board met on October 12th, 2021 at 4:00 PM
at the Pawtucket Water Supply Board, 85 Branch Street, Pawtucket RI.

The Chairperson, William Masuck, called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

PWSB Members Present

William Masuck - present

James Bradford – present

Thomas Hodge - present

Mike Araujo – present

Joanna L'Heureux –present

Mark Theroux - present

PWSB Staff Present

James DeCelles - Chief Engineer

Russ Houde - Assistant Chief Engineer

Christopher Collins – Source Water Manager

Robert Benson – CFO

Joe Keough – Attorney

Katie Peters – Executive Assistant

Public Attendees – None

4. Consent Agenda

General discussion regarding the new website project that is currently underway. A request was made that the chief engineers report be sent out to all board members monthly, even if there is no board meeting scheduled. The status of the ongoing union contract negotiations was discussed. It was also noted that the reservoirs are much fuller than normal at this time of the year, due to all the rain over the summer.

A motion to approve Consent Agenda was made by James Bradford and seconded by Joanna L'Heureux.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Joanna L'Heureux – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

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New Business:

6A. Rate Consultant

A recommendation was made that the board authorize the PWSB to negotiate a contract with Raftelis to serve as the rate consultant company in the upcoming PUC rate case. The board will be presented with the contract for final approval in the coming months. After board approval, the contact would need to be approved by the Pawtucket Purchasing Board. Raftelis is a local company who has worked extensively within Rhode Island.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Joanna L'Heureux – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

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6C. PWSB Tax Sales

Jim DeCelles updated with the board with the plan to send out letters at the end of the year to customers who owe water bills in excess of \$500, alerting them that they could be up for a tax sale in May if no movement is made to pay down the balance on their account. After that, an official notice would go out to all customers with delinquent accounts in excess of \$750.

6D.a. Bill Adjustment Request - 700 Prospect Street, Pawtucket

Mr. Louis Bachetti sent a letter to the Board requesting relief from a high water bill, due to three running toilets discovered in his rental property, which have since been fixed. Mr. Bachetti was out of the state for a number of months and did not notice the high water bills until his return.

PWSB recommends that the Board deny Mr. Louis Bachetti's request for relief from her water bill, in accordance with the Pawtucket Water policy.

Motion to deny bill adjustment was made by Thomas Hodge and seconded by James Bradford.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Joanna L'Heureux – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

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6D.b. Bill Adjustment Request – 21 Memorial Drive, Pawtucket

Ms. Marilia Duarte sent a letter to the Board requesting relief a water bill. It was discussed that the PWSB had been out to her property to repair a leak on our side of the meter, which would not have affected the customer water bill.

PWSB recommends that the Board deny Ms. Marilia Duarte's request for relief from her water bill, in accordance with the Pawtucket Water policy.

Motion to deny bill adjustment was made by Thomas Hodge and seconded by James Bradford.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge -- Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Joanna L'Heureux -- Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

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6E. 490 England St Claim

Mr. David Palagi sent a letter to the Board requesting a reimbursement of \$300.00 associated with the cost of “downtime” incurred by Mr. Palagi’s private plumber. It was discussed that the PWSB had been out to her property at the request of the property owner in anticipation of performing an internal plumbing repair. The PWSB discovered that the owner had paved over the curb stop, which resulted in the PWSB needing to return the following day to shut down the water to multiple homes, including the property in question.

PWSB recommends that the Board deny Mr. David Palagi’s request for reimbursement from his private plumbing bill, in accordance with the Pawtucket Water policy.

Motion to deny was made by Thomas Hodge and seconded by Joanna L'Heureux.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Joanna L'Heureux – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

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5A. Executive Session

A motion was made by James Bradford and seconded by Joanna L'Heureux to go into Executive Session to discuss the Investment of Public Funds (pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(7)).

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Joanna L'Heureux – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

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Executive session started at 4:43 PM

A motion was made by Thomas Hodge and seconded by Joanna L'Heureux to go out of executive session.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes

Mike Araujo – Yes

Joanna L'Heureux – Yes

Mark Theroux - Yes

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Regular session resumed at 4:58 PM

A motion was made by Jim Bradford and seconded by Mike Araujo to seal the executive session minutes.

Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes

James Bradford – Yes

Thomas Hodge – Yes
Mike Araujo – Yes
Joanna L'Heureux – Yes
Mark Theroux - Yes

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Next scheduled meeting will be on November 9th, 2021.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mark Theroux and seconded by James Bradford.


Roll Call Taken:

William Masuck - Yes
James Bradford – Yes
Thomas Hodge – Yes
Mike Araujo – Yes
Joanna L'Heureux – Yes
Mark Theroux - Yes

APPROVED

Meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Certified by PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD, recorded by kp


William Masuck, Chairperson