CAMBRIDGE WATER BOARD

MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2016

This meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Those in attendance were:

Cambridge Water Board (CWB): James Tanner, Phil Weinberg and Ann Roosevelt
Cambridge Water Department (CWD): Sam Corda, Tim MacDonald, Fred Centanni and Linda Vierboom

A. MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2016 MEETING
Mr. Weinberg moved and Mr. Tanner seconded the motion to approve the April 13, 2016 minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT
DCR Greenway Update: Due to cancellation by the DCR, the scheduled update has been moved to June.

The Board would like to congratulate Mr. Kaplan for his upcoming role as one of the speakers on the topic of "Drought Management Planning" at the fall 2016, New England Waterworks Annual Conference.

"Tapping into the Source": Board members watched a Cambridge Community Television (CCTV) video presentation which featured the water department as their debut in a series which will cover various City departments. Mr. Corda answered questions posed by Cambridge residents and gave a tour of the plant. A photo credit will be added to a picture of the old treatment plant. Mr. Corda will send board members the link to the show.

Huron Avenue Force Main Replacement: Continue to replace 1,500' of old riveted steel pipe on Huron Avenue, with a couple hundred feet remain to be done. It is anticipated that the replacement should be completed by the end of May and we will resume normal operations in June and discontinue supplementing with MRWA water. It should be noted that we have been using less MWRA water than originally estimated.

Moratorium on new events at Fresh Pond Reservation: At the last meeting; at the Board's discretion, a new event involving a collaboration between a Cambridge School Group and the Health Department was issued an event permit at the Reservation. At that time, Board members wanted to revisit the permitting moratorium. Mr. Tanner suggested that the Board's decisions, relating to exceptions to the moratorium, be fair and equitable. Mr. Corda and Mr. MacDonald will have an internal discussion with Mr. Kaplan and Mr. Falcione. Mr. Corda will review the previously approved permitting process and schedule this as a topic at the September 2016 meeting.

C. OPERATIONS

Transmission and Distribution:
General Questions from the Board: What is dewatering? Dewatering is the process of removing all of the water from within a water main.

Water Operations:
It has been requested that the Water Department assist the School Department test for lead in every tap that may be used for drinking in all of the public schools in Cambridge. This has been done a few times over the last ten years. There are no lead water services going into the schools. CWD provides free water testing for all of Cambridge.

General Questions from the Board: What is an Arc Flash Study? Mr. MacDonald replied that it's a study that assesses the potential of undesirable electrical arcs occurring in high voltage equipment at the treatment facility and defines corrective actions and methodologies to minimize this potential.

Is chemical certification testing routine? Yes. Mr. MacDonald said that the current laboratory certification testing is almost completed and that this is an annual requirement.

Water Hardness Awareness: There are general misconceptions that Cambridge water can corrode or damage appliances such as water heaters. In actuality, designers of high temperature equipment, such as hot water heaters, steam humidifiers and high efficiency condensing boilers, must understand the water quality and in particular the water hardness. Material compatibility, design and proper maintenance are critical to maximizing the life of this equipment. We expect to be adding information to our web page to help inform the public of our slightly hard water with related design references. Once completed Mr. MacDonald will present this information to the water board at a future meeting.

Watershed:
General Questions from the Board: Are there serious environmental issues at the Lexington Rest Stop? Mr. Kaplan is always working to ensure that requirements, such as routine maintenance and cleaning of catch basins, are met at the rest stop on Route 128 and that all storm water structures within the Cambridge watershed are properly maintained.

Business:
Sewer abatements are now being built into each billing cycle, unlike at one time when they were done manually after the original water and sewer account was billed. Sewer abatement accounts are being transitioned into a single billing cycle (cycle 70), to solely address sewer abatements.

Engineering Division:
Lead Service lines; listed by address, are now posted on our webpage.

D. ACTION ITEMS
None

E. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF INTEREST
No comments

F. NEW BUSINESS
None

Mr. Weinberg moved and Mr. Tanner seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

G. NEXT MEETING DATES /TOPICS

- June 7, 2016 (Tuesday): Approved/DCR 75% Greenway Design, Capital and Operating Budget
- September 13, 2016 (Tuesday): TBA/AMR Customer Service Module, Fresh Pond Reservation permitting
- October 11, 2016 (Tuesday): TBA/Distribution Division Update
- November 15, 2016 (Tuesday): TBA/Water Operations Update
- December 13, 2016 (Tuesday): TBA/Election of the President

Minutes approved by vote of the Board.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Ann C. Roosevelt, President