LANESBOROUGH VILLAGE FIRE AND WATER DISTRICT
20 Bridge Street/P.O. Box 1504
Lanesborough, MA 01237
(413)442-5916 info@lvfwd.com

BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING September 10, 2026
20 Bridge Street, 10:00 a.m.

The Lanesborough Village Fire and Water District held a special meeting at
20 Bridge Street, Lanesborough, Massachusetts on Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Roll call: Present: William Prendergast, Chair; Mary Reilly, Board Member; Aaron Williams, Board Member; Mark Siegars, District Counsel; Kevin Swail, Superintendent

William Prendergast opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.
1.Discussion regarding the Jackson property: William Prendergast stated that he sent an email to the Jacksons letting them know that the Board was meeting today to discuss their property. Mark Siegars stated that the Water District originally approached the matter with the intent of taking the entire lot for several reasons: one, is to give access to the other lands that the District owns in that area so that the water tank could be installed higher up the hill, that it encompasses the area where the electric supply was buried underground to avoid the ongoing issue the District had with running the power down to Route 7 or to Prospect Street or Cheshire Road because it kept shorting. Permission was granted by Verizon to tie into the transformer that they have there and the power line has been installed. The issue was that the Board had received an appraisal for the property in 2024, but because they were also dealing with the challenges of the well at that time, action was postponed. Kevin Swail had recently put a gate up in response to complaints from some neighbors regarding kids going onto the property. The gate is needed to secure the public water supply.

Property owners (the Jacksons) have offered (in a letter sent to the Board) to give the Water District an easement. The District must decide the boundaries for the easement. A surveyor will have to go out and mark the plan. The gate would have to remain as a deterrent to trespassers and to protect the water supply. Mark Seigars to send a letter via email to the Jacksons explaining that the District will accept an easement, the District will send a plan for the easement and will forward it to them for review.

Aaron Williams made a motion to retain a surveyor to conduct a property search and come up with an easement plan in conjunction with Kevin Swail. Mary Reilly seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

2. Bull Hill Road Well funding: Mark Seigars reported that so far the District has received from the USDA $ 1,918,000 in a loan for 40 years at 2.875% interest. The annual payment is $81,308.91. Also $ 1.5 million in a grant from the ECWAG and WEP programs. The District must establish a Capital fund of $ 55,000 per year for maintenance as a requirement for the grant.

The total grant portion cannot exceed 46% of the cost of the projects, which is estimated at $ 3.4 million. Included in the grant portion was the cost of land taking/purchasing at $ 389,000, $ 24,000 for the purchase of meters for the District and if there is money left, for the installation of the meters. The project would have to be completed and funds used by December of 2029. The District would have to get interim financing for the loan amount of $ 1.918 million. The financial adviser would have to come in to develop a plan for the interim financing.

Discussion regarding taking of property at 60 Bull Hill Road. Aaron Williams made a motion to have a surveyor assess and appraise the property. William Prendergast seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

3. Mark Seigars expressed concerns regarding Tighe and Bond's perceived delays in moving projects along. They should be held to a firm schedule. Mary Reilly suggested having an honest discussion with Joe from Tighe and Bond to go over the concerns. Mark Seigars suggested inviting Tighe and Bond to attend the next meeting on October 2, 2026. Also to go over the current plans to be sure they are finalized and have been submitted to the USDA. Mark Seigars will send an email to Joe from Tighe and Bond inviting them to the October 2nd meeting.

4. USDA asked the District to send a letter designating Mark Seigars as an authorized representative, and to return the request for obligations to bonds of funds for the loan and for the two grants. Mark Seigars presented a letter to be signed by the Board for the ECWAG and WEP grants confirming that the District will use the funds for the intended purposes of the grant, and a letter of intent to meet the conditions of the loan. An additional letter confirming the District is unable to finance the projects through commercial credit that would provide reasonable rates and terms was also presented to the Board for review and submission to the USDA.

Mary Reilly made a motion to authorize the execution and submission of all of the documents to allocate funds, to authorize Mark Seigars as the authorized representative and as the person who will submit the forms to the USDA. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

5. Discussion regarding water supply at 665 Cheshire Road property. Discussed running a water main down Summer Street to Swamp Road for the new development at the property. Fire flow tests were performed on Summer Street and with the Pittsfield system. Testers could not get proper fire flow out of the Pittsfield system with all of the extra infrastructure to be built. New developers/customers would need back up pumps, generators, etc. for a cost of at least $ 3 million. They can get fire flow through an eight inch line down Summer Street up to the property.
Mark Seigars suggested that the developers should submit an application to the Water District with their plans for redevelopment. There should be a meeting with the Water District, the Road District and Cypress (the developers) so that everyone is aware of the redevelopment plans and what is needed from the Water District. Kevin Swail to send an email to the representative from Cypress to invite them to a meeting following the next regular meeting at 1 p.m. on October 2, 2026.

6. Discussion about Squanto Street, freeze-ups in the winter and possible road repair if line is replaced. Kevin Swail to get three estimates for 300 feet of line.
7. Kevin Swail reported that he had two applicants for the Assistant Superintendent position. He will send the job posting via email to Mass Rural and Western Mass.
8. Willam Prendergast adjourned the meeting at 12:51 p.m.