

LANESBOROUGH VILLAGE FIRE AND WATER DISTRICT  
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BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
20 Bridge Street, 10:00 a.m.

February 07, 2025

The Lanesborough Village Fire and Water District held its regular meeting at  
20 Bridge Street, Lanesborough, Massachusetts on Friday, February 07, 2025.

**Roll call:** Present: William Prendergast, Chair; Mary Reilly, Board Member; Aaron Williams, Board Member; Mark Siegars, District Counsel; Kevin Swail, Superintendent; Katie Lemanski, Treasurer; Cindy Roughley, Clerk

William Prendergast opened the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

1. The warrant and payroll warrant for January 2025 were reviewed and signed.
2. The minutes from the meeting of January 10, 2025 were reviewed. Mary Reilly made a motion to accept the minutes. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
3. There were no public comments.
4. There were no disputes
5. There was an abatement request received regarding 16 Irwin Street. This abatement was denied because the water is still turned on. If the water is shut off, the District must notify the Board of Health, who must then revoke the certificate of occupancy. Mary Reilly made a motion to deny the abatement. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Katie Lemanski will send the abatement request with the denial to the property owner. Discussion regarding changing the abatement form to have only the Chairman's signature required. Cindy Roughley to change the form.
6. Website update: Cindy Roughley stated that there were 249 visitors to the website in the last 30 days. Kevin Swail suggested that the image of the new sample station could be removed from the home page. Cindy Roughley will remove it.
7. Betterments/liens: Discussion regarding betterments was held, no action taken.
8. The deed for property gift from Mr. Petricca was received. The property is a section on Route 7 from Miner Road to Bull Hill Road. Mary Reilly to send a note of appreciation recognizing Mr. Petricca and also Mr. Timothy Sorrell for his involvement in the project. This will be posted on the website.
9. A discussion regarding redefining and expanding the boundaries of the water district. Mark Siegars to contact Tighe and Bond regarding clearly and legally defining the boundaries. Aaron Williams made a motion to start the process of re-mapping the District. Mary Reilly seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
10. Aaron Williams spoke about the electric bill and rates charged. The District's electric service accounts are currently being billed under Eversource's Small General Service (Demand) rate. It was recommended to move the Miner Road Well to the Small

General Service (Non-Demand) rate. This would save the District approximately \$9,000 per year. There were two streetlights that were converted from high pressure sodium to LED this week. This will also help save on electricity costs.

11. Treasurer and Collector's report: Katie Lemanski reported that as of January 30, 2025 there was an outstanding balance of \$ 181,608.99 owed to the water district. The bills went out for January 01, 2025. Currently in the process of verifying exemptions for the year. For fiscal year 2026, there will be a 16% increase in the health insurance premiums, a 2.27 % increase in family dental insurance premiums and a 3.13% increase in individual dental premiums for 2025 for active employees. The annual budget review should be added to the agenda for the March meeting. Discussion regarding the tanker rate was started and tabled until the next meeting. This will be added to the March meeting agenda.
12. Federal grants and loans: Mark Siegars spoke about recent Executive Order by the President and that the funding for the Bull Hill Road project may now be cut. The District needs to explore other funding options for the project. There will be a pump test in the Spring and in the Fall that will have to be paid for. Estimate costs between \$ 600,000 and \$ 700,000 for remainder of project. Need a breakdown of payments made between now and July 01, 2026 to submit for reimbursement.
13. Legal issues/mall billing: The Water District has placed a lien on the mall. Mark Seigars has responded to all discovery requests and has made a motion with the court for summary judgement.
14. MA Rural Water Association recovery for PFAS class action lawsuit update: there is an online portal that has been opened for payments when they are ready to make them.
15. Superintendent's report: Kevin Swail reported that they have been handling house pipe freeze ups this winter, but no water main freezes or breaks so far. The Town wants to pave section of Prospect Street and Old Cheshire Road up to Lakeview Farm. Discussion regarding a water main from Goodell to Miner Road and extending the T. Kevin Swail would like to replace the pipe to achieve a full connection there. Estimates around \$ 650,000 for the project.  
A discussion regarding ductile iron pipe, currently using Thickness Class 52 . Kevin Swail to check on price for Pressure Class ductile iron pipe and to check on price for ductile iron pipe coated with zinc. Kevin Swail to give an estimate of costs for extending water lines on Miner Road and Goodell Road, over to Bridge Street.
16. The date for the next regular meeting will be Friday, March 07, 2025.
17. William Prendergast adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m.