

LANESBOROUGH VILLAGE FIRE AND WATER DISTRICT  
20 Bridge Street/P.O. Box 1504  
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BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
20 Bridge Street, 10:00 a.m.

March 03, 2023

The Lanesborough Village Fire and Water District held their regularly scheduled meeting at 20 Bridge Street, Lanesborough, Massachusetts on Friday, March 03, 2023. Chair William Prendergast called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The agenda was properly posted.

**Roll call:** **Present:** William Prendergast, Chair; Mary Reilly and Aaron Williams, Board Members; Mark Siegars, District Counsel; Kevin Swail, Superintendent; Cindy Roughley, Clerk; Kristen Tool, Website Design/Maintenance, Linda Pruyne, Treasurer attended remotely via Zoom.

Absent: None

1. William Prendergast opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.
2. Approval of prior meeting minutes – Minutes to be revised on # 13 to state the pipe project on G and Ocean Streets will be put out to bid. Mary Reilly made a motion to approve the minutes from 02-03-2023 meeting with that change. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.
3. Fran Kelley from Nonamie Trailer Park – discussion of water pipe replacement project. Fran is working on a bid package. Will attend next meeting with update.
4. Kristen Tool provided update on the Water District website – 157 visitors to the website in February.
5. Ben Gelb, Tax Collector for Town of Lanesborough, presented 7 abatement forms for the senior exemption. All have been approved for the real estate tax exemption with the Town. Mary Reilly made a motion to approve the 25% water charge abatement for those 7 applicants. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.
6. Abatement form and 25% exemption forms – Cindy Roughley presented the revised Abatement Review and Decision Form, revised format based on Commonwealth form. Mary Reilly made a motion to approve the new form. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.  
Cindy Roughley presented the newly created 25% Abatement Processing Form. Mark Siegars suggested some changes. Mary Reilly made a motion to approve the new form subject to the changes being made to the form. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.

Current abatement applications already received on the old form regarding the 25% senior abatement will be accepted if they have been approved for the Town's real estate exemption. Town Collector's office to present a list from the Town of those who qualified for the senior abatement, and the completed forms will be attached to the list.

Mary Reilly made a motion to approve the 25% abatement for those on the list from the Town. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.

Discussion of a flyer or newsletter to describe the 25% water bill abatement and BCAC – to be sent out with the next water bill.

American Legion abatement application was discussed and decided on by Board.

Mary Reilly made a motion to deny the abatement. Aaron Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries. Clerk to scan and mail the abatement form with decision to the applicant.

7. Mall/Target – DEP Water Division coming to do inspection of the mall on April 04, 2023 at 10 a.m. The Board of Commissioners has been invited.
8. Check off list for construction/new building – discussed and continued for next meeting.
9. Electric bill – Aaron Williams suggested to leave things as they are until the new rates from Eversource come in for the July-September time period to compare the rates.
10. Ben Gelb discussed the contract for collection services with the Town and suggested a contract with one annual payment to the Collector for all services. Current contract expires at the end of fiscal year 2024 and includes tracking of expenditures. Discussion regarding looking at historical data of expenses and create a contract based on total costs. Mark Siegars to write up a proposed contract with an estimated annual increase of 3 % for renewal in 20 years.
11. USDA Loan for water main replacement – Mark Siegars contacted the USDA and sent email. He follow up with the USDA and provide update at the next meeting.
12. New EPA standards for PFAS – keep on agenda for next meeting.
13. Superintendent's Report- Kevin Swail discussed replacing the plow truck and dump truck both, for an estimated cost of \$ 95,000. Tabled for discussion next meeting so that the Treasurer could be present.  
Would like to put the Ocean Street project out to bid. Suggests a bid package from Tighe and Bond regarding having an independent engineer or water operator on site for all projects.  
New group wants to build houses on Iroquois Street. Kevin to contact Dan Gaylord and ask if the owners can come in to discuss the water line project there.
14. Next meeting Friday, April 07, 2023 at 10 a.m.
15. Meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m. by William Prendergast.