

**MFN Regional Wastewater Meeting
October 5, 2021**

**MEETING MINUTES
(VIRTUAL MEETING – GOTOWEBINAR)**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mansfield: Michael Trowbridge
Mansfield: Matthew Teixeira
Mansfield: Jess Aptowitz, MFN Secretary
Norton: Mike Yunits, MFN Chairman
Foxboro: Chris Gallagher, MFN Vice Chairman
Foxboro: Richard Pacella

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Lee Azinheira

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Norton: Diane McElligott

GUESTS PRESENT: Matt Violette, MFN Treasurer
Chris Rositer, MFN
Renee Gauthier, Secretary

- 1) Approval of Meeting Minutes (8-31-21)
Discussion:

Motion: To approve Meeting Minutes of 8-31-21.
(Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes
Trowbridge – Yes
Aptowitz – Yes
Teixeira – Yes
Gallagher – Yes
Pacella - Yes

- 2) Approval of Bills
Discussion - Warrant 22-06:

Motion: To approve Expense Warrant 22-06 in the amount of \$54,408.40 and to authorize the Executive Director to be the only signature required for the warrant. (Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes
Trowbridge – Yes
Aptowitz – Yes
Teixeira – Yes
Gallagher – Yes
Pacella - Yes

3) Community Updates

a) Mansfield

Nothing new.

b) Foxborough

Chris stated that Foxboro has recently agreed a sale of 34,000 gpd of sewer capacity to the Town of Sharon, which will be run through Gavin's Pond, Cannon Forge and down Morse Street to Mansfield. Lee said the bid for the Mansfield sewer lining project will be going out soon. Lee said he will let him know when that is done.

c) Norton

Nothing new.

4) Approval of Auditor Contractor – Matthew Violette, MFN Treasurer

Discussion: Matt Violette, MFN Treasurer stated while researching firms to perform audit services for the MFN, he reached out to Powers & Sullivan, who currently provide audit services for the Town of Mansfield. He said that they came in at the same price as R.E. Brown (the firm who performed auditing services for MFN in prior years). He suggested choosing Powers and Sullivan as it is always a good idea to have a different set of eyes review the data and procedures. Jess Aptowitz said wanted to disclose that he used to work with Mike Nelligan of Powers & Sullivan approximately 30 years ago. He said there was no conflict of interest as he has no financial interest in this matter. He stated that he thought they were a highly professional firm and would recommend them. Jess inquired if we were waiting for anything from R.E. Brown or if MFN had a current contract; Matt stated that R.E. Brown had submitted their proposal, but that there is no contract currently in place for auditing services.

Motion: To approve Contracting Powers & Sullivan to Perform MFN Audit. (Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes
Trowbridge – Yes
Aptowitz – Yes
Teixeira – Yes
Gallagher – Yes
Pacella - Yes

5) MFN Right of Way in Norton

Discussion: Mike Yunits stated his concern is that they have done the title search in Norton and their attorney said there are 39 parcels that we do not have title to for the Norton portion along the right of way now. He said he is concerned that those people may want compensation. He said Norton is taking easements and has an appraiser looking at these properties. He stated he feels the MFN should be taking these easements and then Norton would get permission from MFN. Mike Trowbridge wanted to know which attorneys that did not agree with how this property was taken. Lee said over the years he heard the Town of Mansfield had the rights that railroad originally had. Mike Trowbridge said they had a meeting with Norton and Mansfield attorneys and it was suggested that it was a confirmatory deed. Lee said Mansfield did confirmatory takings, that were recorded in the 80's but it appears no confirmatory taking done in Norton at that time. He has concern that once people are on notice that they own the property in middle, there may issues with access for maintenance on line. Mike Trowbridge suggested having an executive session during the next meeting to discuss this issue and that they have the attorneys attend. Lee asked if he meant Sharin and Joe Cove; Mike said yes, in order to come up with a strategy. Kevin Dumas, Mansfield Town Manager said he agreed with Mike Trowbridge, that it is a good idea to meet in executive session and the MFN Committee consensus was to do so at the next scheduled meeting.

6) Executive Director's Report

7) Any Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours Prior To This Meeting

8) Next Meeting – November 2, 2021, 6 PM.

Motion: To adjourn at 6:25PM.
(Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes
Trowbridge – Yes
Aptowitz – Yes
Teixeira – Yes

Gallagher – Yes
Pacella - Yes

Respectfully submitted,
Jess Aptowitz



Signature of District Secretary

11/2/21
Date of Acceptance