



OBSERVER CORPS REPORT

WATER & SEWER COMMISSION - August 6, 2024
LWVM Observer: Steven Levy

Staff present: Amy McHugh, Superintendent; Bethany Spangler, Assistant Superintendent. Absent: Dianne Rodgers, Office Manager.

Commissioners present: F. Carlton Siegel, Chair. Members: Gregory Bates, Thomas L. Murray and Barton HYTE

The meeting started at 7:00 PM. The minutes for the May 7, 2024 regular meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission and the June 25 rate study meeting were approved.

This Fall the department is going to check chlorine levels in the water tank. A new hydrant was installed on Mechanic Square and a leak was fixed on Lee Street. Water and sewer crews are working through the heat waves.

National Grid subcontractors are moving to Roosevelt, Curtis, Maverick, and Bubier Road for repairs. The work is expected to be completed in the Spring. Some employees will be going to mechanic courses to learn different skills. The accounting department has improved billing and shut-off notices. People are watering despite the rain.

The commission approved \$10,000 to be used on the TiSALES remote water meter reading pilot program. The commission also approved an amount not to exceed \$2,500 so two staff members could attend the New England Water Works conference. There are two new hires: a GIS field technician and an office assistant.

The department got a \$807,000 federal grant award with a \$283,000 match. The committee approved an MWRA leak detection contract with Liston Utility Services.

The next meeting is Sept 3, the day after Labor Day.