***Franconia Water Department***

***Monthly Meeting***

***Minutes April 11, 2018***

**Meeting began at 9am**

**In attendance**: Joan Hartford, Commissioner. Richard McLachlin, Commissioner. Peter Hilton, LRW. Meaghan Caron, Water Secretary. Karen Foss representing the Energy Commission

Minutes from 3/13 were approved.

**Cross Connection**: Still in need of Cross Connection Survey: Dutch Treat, Plane Kate’s and Pams’s Hair Salon. The salon may already have a dual check.

Mr. Weiskerger’s letter for the Fransted Campground’s extension for the project deadline was approved. We will allow project to be extended to until before next season opener (May 2019)

All other Cross Connection projects install dates shall be identified by individual property.

**PETE**:

* Water shut off for 157 slalom lane January 2018—Meg needs to bill for this in next bill
* New hydrant was installed at corner of 18 and Coal Hill.
* Water was shut off at Presby’s building on the corner of 142 and Main Street
* Still need to take fire hydrant out at Best Western
* Pete found a leak on Hubertus Ring when digging to do a blow off. A few homes are affected by this today (4/11). Water will be turned back on by end of the day.
* Pete suggests we look into an automated system called “One Call Now” that can easily send notices to customers. How much does that cost?
* The annual flushing to happen the last week in April and First week in May. A few customers are complaining of dirty water. Hopefully this flush will help. Also, there are reports of discolored water at Apartment building on 116.

**Joan**:

Joan has been in contact will Deb Mastro to get a sample and to install the new meter. Mac suggests we dig at the curb stop in front of her house to get the sample. Try to do it second week of May. We should use same approach with the Ferraro home.

**Meters**:

* Meter should be installed at Ice Rink. Do we dig a pit or install new lines into the building and work with the town to keep costs down?
* We have 31 meters remaining to install.

**METER RATES:** Joan explained meter fees and charges to Holly and Holly suggested that once numbers are solidified we present the numbers to the Selectboard. Meg to invite board to our next meeting.

We all agree that we need to raise the rates but be sensitive to the customers costs. The smaller accounts can’t carry the cost weight of the larger customers.

* $3.56 per trimester for endpoint fee (.89 month endpoint fee) to be passed off to customers starting
* All new base meter rates and endpoint fees will begin with our next billing (May 2018)

**Additional Discussions:**

An assets report is requested by auditors and Holly. The 2016 report has quite a few line items that either no longer exist or that are incorrect. Meg can contact Sally to see if she knows where numbers came from. Holly said we can adjust the numbers on the current report to give to auditors this year but that next year we really need to completely re-do the report with all proper line items.

**Karen Foss**—here representing the energy committee.

* Street lights come in number 1 as highest user. Water department comes next. Please do our best to reduce the use of electricity. 2016 to 2017 usage 62,211 to 63,623
* Karen wonders what the Mittersill firehouse is used for. We use it as a well pump house but for no other reason.
* How do we compare Franconia to other towns? We are a very different water system and because we have Mittersill as water users we work with two different pump systems.
* Pump house buildings…can any of them make use of Solar Energy? Karen wonders if there would be reason to search for grants to put towards solar panels?

Peter Gignac joined us and we confirmed with him that we have a letter drafted to the campground to be in agreement with the easement.

Meeting was adjourned at 11 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meaghan Caron

Water Secretary

*(Approval of minutes by water commissioners still needed when minutes are posted as “DRAFT”)*