

FRANCONIA WATER DEPARTMENT
MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2016

The Franconia Water Commissioners met for the May 9, 2016 Meeting at the Franconia Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. The public was invited to attend this meeting.

Members present: Mac McLachlin and Ray Peltier.
Also present: Pete Hilton from LRW.

Residents present: Ms Karen Weiskirker and Mr. Deane Haskell

The main issue with our commercial customers is cost (not the cost of water used but the cost of the meters rented). Commercial customers pay 2-7 times as much as residential customers do to rent meters of the same size.

Deane Haskell has seen his bills quadruple since the new water system was installed. He also mentioned that there are small businesses in town being billed at the residential rate. He also mentioned that one or more of his three meters could be smaller than those that were most recently installed.

Karen Weiskirker objects to paying \$1,100 per quarter to rent a meter for the 6 months that her campground is open. She also mentioned that she could get by with a meter smaller than the 2 inch meter that was in the ground when she and her husband purchased the campground.

The water commissioners are sympathetic to their cause and intend to make changes in the schedule of fees charges. After the residents left the water commissioners discussed this issue and decided that the commercial customers needed some relief. A new schedule of fees and charges will be in place by the next quarterly billing cycle (January 2017).

Each account will have one meter only. If a resident wants to have 2 accounts on his property, he will have to pay for 2 meters. There will be no free meters.

There are currently 105 Badger meters installed and there are 315 customers in our system. We are searching for a part-time plumber to assist in installing new meters.

Much work has been done at Mittersill and at the Mittersill fire station in the past month. New pipes and valves have been installed to tie well #4 into the system. Work at the Mittersill Inn has not been completed. We will run a line onto the Mittersill Inn property, add a curb stop and cap it. In the future, at their convenience and expense, the Mittersill Inn can run a service line from their building to the curb stop. At that time they may choose to replace the existing handicap ramp at their expense with one of their design.

In the past month the Mittersill storage tank was cleaned and the interior tank walls (operating range) coated. The cost was in excess of \$30,000.

In the next couple of weeks an air operated mixing system will be installed into the storage tank to prevent the surface of the water from freezing. The quality of water should improve. Cost is ~\$20,000.

The exterior of the storage tank will be cleaned and coated in the spring at a cost of \$25,000-\$30,000.