

**TOWN OF ENFIELD
ENFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 4, 2020**

TIME: 3:30 PM
LOCATION: via Zoom Teleconference

PRESENT

Board of Selectmen: John W. Kluge, Meredith Smith

Excused: Katherine D.P. Stewart

Administrative Staff: Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager; Alisa Bonnette, Assistant Town Manager

Others: Charles Clark; Jim Taylor; Sheila Young; Philip Vermeer, and "Zachary's iphone"

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Kluge called the Selectboard meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Virtual Meeting Preamble

Due to the individuals present being a small number who have frequented Board of Selectmen's meetings in the past, the Board forewent the reading of the full preamble presented here.

TOWN OF ENFIELD BOARD/COMMITTEE COVID-19 ELECTRONIC MEETING CHECKLIST

As Chair of the Selectboard for the Town of Enfield, due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that this is a virtual meeting only, as authorized by the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, this is to confirm that we are:

a) Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means;

We are utilizing the Zoom platform for this electronic meeting. All members of the Board/Committee have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through the Zoom platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # and using the password provided or by clicking on the following website address: that has been provided in email.

b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting;

We previously gave notice to the public of how to access the meeting using Zoom, and instructions are provided on the Town of Enfield's website at: <https://enfield.nh.us>.

c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access;

If anybody has a problem, please call 603-309-6379 or email at: raylesworth@enfield.nh.us.

d) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting.

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, we will adjourn the meeting and have it rescheduled at that time.

At this time, I also welcome members of the public accessing this meeting remotely. Although this meeting is being conducted in a unique manner under unusual circumstances, the usual rules of conduct and decorum apply. Any person found to be disrupting this meeting will be asked to cease the disruption. Should the disruptive behavior continue thereafter, that person will be removed from this meeting.

I will follow the agenda items in order unless otherwise explicitly stated and ask the Board and town department and/or committee stakeholders for input first. Then I will specifically ask for public comment. I will ask you to unmute and will call on members of the public. I ask that you endeavor to not speak over one another or interrupt in the interest of fairness to all present in the call and to our minute taker. I acknowledge timing is a challenge and there will be occasional, intentional lags to allow for responses from participants. Please be patient and the meeting will flow along nicely.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by Roll Call vote.

Let's start the meeting by taking a Roll Call attendance. When each member states their presence, also please state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

ROLL CALL OF ATTENDEES

BUSINESS

This special meeting is being held to discuss the enactment of water restrictions for all Enfield Municipal Water System customers.

- The Board of Selectmen received the following documents for review and consideration:
- Proposed Voluntary Water Restrictions
- Proposed Mandatory Water Restrictions
- Email from the NH Department of Environmental Services Relative to Drought Conditions
- Memo from Director of Public Works, Jim Taylor
- Typical Fines (per Director of Public Works)

Mr. Taylor reported that the extent of the drought in Grafton County overall is not that grim, however the severe line drought has extended into Springfield NH and Enfield has experienced 3 months of moderate drought. It's the duration of the moderate drought in Enfield that is a concern. The weather over the next 14 days has only 2 days with 30% chance of showers.

It is difficult to determine the levels of water in the aquifers from which Enfield draws its water, however the water tank which used to take 24 hours to fill, now takes 28-29 hours to fill and that indicates the level of the water in the aquifer is lower, increasing pumping time. About the only thing that would indicate problems is if water customers began to see air bubbles in the water.

Along the seacoast the drought conditions are more severe and they are seeing private well dry up.

Mr. Kluge asked if a business such as the Route 4 car wash, which is being reviewed by the Planning Board, would need to shut down. Mr. Taylor replied that might be possible.

We are nearing the end of the outdoor watering season and could remove the mandatory restrictions at that point.

Mrs. Smith has noticed the level of Mascoma Lake is lower than she has ever seen this time of year. It is unclear if water may have been let out at the Lebanon dam or if it's a combination of factors. It's possible they lowered the water level when the recent hurricane was predicted.

Mr. Aylesworth asked what Lebanon is doing. He was informed they implemented voluntary water restrictions a couple of weeks ago.

The Board discussed enactment of voluntary restrictions effective immediately. Mandatory restrictions, due to noticing requirements, cannot go into effect until September 13, 2020.

The Board discussed the consequences for violations. Typical fines are: first offense is a written warning, second offense is \$100 and third offense is \$500 and possible water shut-off.

Mrs. Smith pumps water from the lake with a small pump for her garden and asked Mr. Taylor if that was OK. He replied that the small pump would draw very little so should not be a problem.

Mr. Kluge moved to enact Voluntary Water Restrictions, as presented, effective as soon as possible; Mrs. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (2-0), motion carried.

Mr. Kluge moved to enact Mandatory Water Restrictions as presented, effective as soon as possible, with the exception of fines: the first violation will receive a written warning, second violation a \$100 fine and third violation \$500 fine; Mrs. Smith seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (2-0), motion carried. Due to noticing requirements the mandatory water restrictions will go into effect September 13, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Smith moved to adjourn at 3:48 PM, Mr. Kluge seconded, vote unanimous in favor of the motion (2-0), meeting adjourned.

Katherine D. P. Stewart, Chair

Meredith C. Smith

John W. Kluge
Enfield Board of Selectmen



Town of Enfield Water/Sewer Commissioners

September 4, 2020

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Voluntary Water Restrictions Effective Immediately

Due to the lack of substantial precipitation and moderate drought conditions, the Enfield Board of Selectmen acting in their capacity as Water/Sewer Commissioners, is asking **all** Enfield Municipal Water System residential and business customers to participate in **voluntary water restrictions** effective immediately and until further notice.

What this means to you: Effective immediately, the Water/Sewer Commissioners are asking all Municipal Water System customers to discontinue all outdoor watering. These voluntary restrictions are requested until further notice. It is recommended that water customers refrain from:

- Watering lawns, gardens, landscaped areas, trees, shrubs and ornamental plants (the watering of vegetables by container is OK).
- Washing paved surfaces, such as streets, sidewalks, driveways, garages, parking areas, tennis courts and patios.
- Operating water fountains, artificial waterfalls and reflecting pools.
- Washing vehicles.
- Filling and topping off swimming pools or running a sprinkler for children.

We also strongly encourage households with private wells to be judicious with their water use as private wells may very well be affected in the near future.

For further questions please contact the Department of Public Works at 603-632-4605 or jtaylor@enfield.nh.us. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Please visit our website <https://www.enfield.nh.us/water-sewer> for updates regarding the voluntary water restrictions and drought conditions. Any and all water conservation in addition to the recommended restrictions is appreciated. We would like to thank you in advance for your assistance

Please note that a number of water saving tips are provided on the website:
<https://www.enfield.nh.us/water-sewer/files/water-saving-tips-conservation-efficiency-information>

Enfield Board of Selectmen



Town of Enfield Water/Sewer Commissioners

September 4, 2020

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Mandatory Water Restrictions Effective September 13, 2020

Due to the lack of substantial precipitation and moderate drought conditions, the Enfield Board of Selectmen acting in their capacity as Water/Sewer Commissioners, in accordance with RSA 41:11-d, hereby place **mandatory water restrictions** in place on all outdoor watering effective September 10, 2020 and until further notice. The mandatory water restrictions are in effect for **all** Enfield Municipal Water System residential and business customers.

What this means to you: Effective Wednesday, September 13, 2020, all outdoor watering is **prohibited**. These restrictions are in effect until further notice. The restrictions will stay in place until conditions allow the ban to be lifted. Prohibited activities include:

- Watering lawns, gardens, landscaped areas, trees, shrubs and ornamental plants (the watering of vegetables by container is permitted).
- Washing paved surfaces, such as streets, sidewalks, driveways, garages, parking areas, tennis courts and patios.
- Operating water fountains, artificial waterfalls and reflecting pools.
- Washing vehicles.
- Filling and topping off swimming pools or running a sprinkler for children.

While the restrictions are not being imposed on households with private wells, we strongly encourage everyone to be judicious with their water use as private wells may very well be affected in the near future.

Please be advised that the watering restrictions for Municipal Water System customers will be strictly enforced. The first offense will result in a written notice for failure to comply. Second offense will result in a \$100 fine. Third and each subsequent offense will result in a fine of \$500 and disconnection of water service. For further questions please contact the Department of Public Works at 603-632-4605. If you observe violations to the mandatory water restrictions, we ask that you report it right away by calling 603-632-4605 or emailing jtaylor@enfield.nh.us. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Please visit our website <https://www.enfield.nh.us/water-sewer> for updates regarding the water restrictions and drought conditions. Any and all water conservation in addition to the restrictions is appreciated. We would like to thank you in advance for your assistance.

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