



# Town Of Webster

Est. 1832

## Massachusetts

### Webster Water Sewer Commission

350 Main Street  
Webster, MA 01570

Tom Andrade - Chairman  
Earl Gabor - Vice Chairman  
Dan Duteau

Marc Becker  
Rick LaFond - Town Administrator  
Tom Cutler - Water and Sewer Superintendent, Secretary

#### Webster Water Sewer Commission-Joint Meeting with Dudley

#### **Draft-Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, Nov 10, 2022**

**6:30pm**

Town Hall Selectman's Room  
350 Main Street, Webster, MA 01570

- Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 P.M.

***Attendees:*** Earl Gabor, Dan Duteau, Tom Andrade, Marc Becker, Rick LaFond, Tim Bell, and Tom Cutler. ***Guests in attendance:*** Matt Abrahams, Scott Zajkowski, William Conley, Thomas Fornier, and Paul Brinkman

➤ **Pledge of Allegiance-**

All attendees completed Introductions

➤ **IMA true up discussion-**

Chairman Andrade opened the meeting followed by Commissioner Gabor explaining the Commission was created about three years ago by changing the Town Charter and the appointments are 3yr terms and the Superintendent and the Town Administrator are non-voting members.

Dudley Water Sewer Chairman Scott Zajkowski explained their members are elected. Mr. Zajkowski stated their Consultant Mr. Paul Brinkman would be able to walk us thru the history and some of the challenges to date. Mr. Brinkman explained the history and the lack of trust and lack of details within the true up process but acknowledged the outcome could be much worse with Dudley owing money that was not budgeted for since the operating costs for Webster have not changed in 10years. Webster Town Accountant Tim Bell stated the details were sent several times to Dudley's Town Treasurer since he started in 2018. Mr. Brinkman replied with he was not able to open any attachments and was forced to create his own true up spreadsheet that was easier to follow and he never received anything from Dudley's Town Treasurer. Mr. Bell responded this meeting is a waste of time if Dudley has not been able to open all attachments and someone from Dudley should have informed of us of the issues. Mr. Brinkman further explained he is for the most part satisfied with the

numbers thru FY20 but the details will need to be reviewed again if Webster is claiming money is owed north of \$80K. Mr. Brinkman also stated that Webster has not been following the IMA contract which includes meeting twice per year and the fees/fines could be as high \$300K owed to Dudley. Mr. Brinkman stated that Dudley does not know what Webster's plans are for Capital and it's hard for Dudley to set rates each year not knowing what will be billed from Webster. Mr. Bell explained our 5 year Capital Plan was one of those items sent to the Town Treasurer. Mr. Bell left the room and returned with paper copies of the current "draft" 5-year plan. Mr. Abrahams Webster's consultant stated he would send the attachments again with details and get the FY21 and 22 numbers over to Dudley in the next two weeks. Chairman Andrade stated it is Webster's intent to meet with Dudley twice per year spring and fall and possibly work on a simpler agreement for the future. Both Boards agreed finalizing the true up and a simpler process would be beneficial to both Towns. Commissioner Gabor suggested meeting again on January 26th once both Town's have had a chance to work thru the FY21 and 22 true up. Webster and Dudley's Consultant's agreed to work together to have the true ups completed thru FY22 for the January meeting. Both Commission's will also be able to review the draft FY24 budget, including capital replacement projects planned for 24. All members agreed. Town Administrator Rick LaFond stated we need to recognize Veterans Day, which is tomorrow and noted Commissioner Conley from Dudley is a Marine Veteran and we thank him for his service.

➤ **Other business not known at the time of posting-**

No other business at this time.

➤ **Proposed Next Meeting Date-December 1<sup>st</sup>**

• **Adjournment**

A motion was made, and seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm by roll-call vote: Gabor-yea, Becker-yea, Andrade-yea, and Duteau-yea.

**Attachments:**

- Dudley IMA True Up Spread Sheet
- Webster IMA True Up Spread Sheet
- Webster Sewer Department Draft 5yr Capital Plan