



Town of Holbrook
Office of Joint Superintendent
(781) 767-1800

RANDOLPH-HOLBROOK JOINT WATER BOARD

50 North Franklin Street
Holbrook, MA 02343



Town of Randolph

August 18, 2022

Dear Mr. Howard,

I am writing to you to request that the Town Council vote to transfer \$50,249.76 to pay an FY22 unpaid bill related to the Enterprise Fund / Joint Water Board. This request would cover Randolph's 50% portion of the balance beyond what the Joint Water Board reserve fund was able cover. These costs are mostly due to overtime and emergency repair work done at the treatment plant.

Typically, the plant is staffed with 6 fulltime operators the cover a 24-hour, 7 day a week operation. For a large part of FY22, the plant staff was reduced to 3 operators. This caused a significant deficit in the overtime budget line. The deficit in the OT was \$75,949.00. As the year went on, some of those positions were filled. However, due to some recent departures, we currently remain under staffed and looking for operators. The need for water treatment plant operators is an industry wide issue so we will need to continue to use OT to properly staff the plant.

While preparing for a predicted hurricane last Summer, we had an issue with the backup generator that supplies electricity to the entire treatment plant. This required us to rent a generator at a cost of \$9,500.00 per month. This was significant unforeseen cost. Due to supply chain issues as well as labor shortages, the repair time was quite lengthy. The cost of the repairs to the generator and the generator rental was \$95,447.24.

There have been increases in chemical and delivery fees that were also incurred during the year. I anticipate that we will continue to see these issues throughout this current year. MassDEP has cautioned water suppliers that chemicals are expected to continue to increase in cost as well as difficult to source. We continue to test monthly for PFAS, the testing facilities have informed us of increases in their services also.

Thank you for your assistance with this request.

Sincerely,

Chris Pellitteri

Randolph-Holbrook Joint Water Board Chairman