



## TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7  
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 ext. 212  
Fax: 508-634-2200

Board of Water & Sewer  
Commissioners

Christine Burke, Chair  
James Morin  
Robert Burns

### Hopedale Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners Minutes of April 14, 2016

The Hopedale Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners met on April 14, 2016, in the Draper Room of the Town Hall. Members present were Chairperson Burke, Commissioner Morin and Commissioner Burns.

#### **Consent Items**

Minutes of the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting - Commissioner Morin made a motion to approve the minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup> seconded by Commissioner Burns and made unanimous by Chairperson Burke.

#### **Appointments**

- A. Mendon Water Commissioners – Mendon Commissioners Dean D'Allesandro, Alan Kent and Dwight Watson came before the Hopedale Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to discuss the contracts between the two towns. Also present was Mendon Selectman Rich Schofield. Discussions were held on the leak that was found on East Harford Ave in Mendon and its repair. Mr. Lou Costanza, who also attended the meeting, was curious as to why Hopedale Water employees were working on a Mendon leak. Chairperson Burke stated that she did not see anything wrong with helping other towns having an issue. Mendon Selectman Schofield stated he was under the impression they would be billed for that job at which time Manager Watson informed him they were. It was asked if there were any questions or concerns regarding the three separate contracts. Mendon Commissioner Watson asked about the contract renewals and what are our intentions regarding pricing for the next 3 years. He was informed that the contracts renew every three years and that the pricing had dropped from Hopedale's highest rate plus 25% to just the highest rate during our last renewal, which was removed. Commissioner Morin would like to leave the contract as is and continue meeting every three years to insure things are going fine. Tim feels that the contract reads if our highest rate changes then Mendon's rate should also change. Chairperson Burke stated she would like to clean up the contracts and state the renewal process and rate structure language within the Rt. 140 contract to say it renews every three years after a joint meeting of the Boards and if Hopedale's rates to its customers change then Mendon's rate changes as well. She also asked about the financial issues regarding the payment of water services. Tim stated they did not have enough in their budget to cover their cost this FY again but are going to town meeting for funding approval. Mendon Commissioner Kent stated it is their intention to go to Mendon town meeting again to get payment approval. Commissioner Morin stated that Mendon is a customer just like his home. If the water bill is not paid within 90 days you have the chance of having your water shut off.

Commissioner Burns spoke pertaining to the leak. Water was going through Mendon's meter and then losing approximately 1M gallons. Tim stated he figured that would calculate to approximately \$42,000 per year. Lou Costanza brought up the connections allowed per the contract. Tim and Mendon Commissioner Watson stated that a car wash was being built on Rte. 140 in Mendon but would be using well water. Chairperson Burke stated that an inventory should be done as to what exactly is left for connections. Commissioner Morin stated we should also have owner information updated. The Hopedale Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners thanked the Mendon Commissioners for attending our meeting.

**New Business - None**

**Old Business**

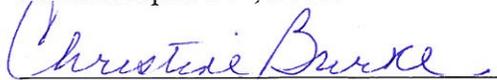
- A. Solar System – the evaluation of the existing panel has been completed and finally moving forward. Lou Costanza asked about the length of the contract which he was informed was 20 years.
- B. Scada System - the system is now upgraded and we now have security. It is now on an independent computer that has the new windows 10.
- C. Mill Street Land – Tim met with DEP and was informed that they do allow conservation easements. Sue from DEP drew up wording and Rosenfeld's attorneys are reviewing the contracts.
- D. New Water Department Employee (Louis Brown) – Tim stated that Louis (Chuck) is working out very well and gets along well with the rest of the department. His last job was at EMC doing facility maintenance. He was there for 15 years.

**Correspondence – None**

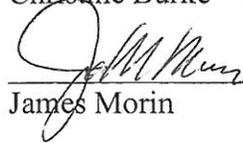
**Other topics not reasonable anticipated by chairman within 48 hours – None**

Commissioner Burns made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 seconded by Commissioner Morin and made unanimous by Chairperson Burke.

I attest to the best of my knowledge that this is a true and accurate recording of the minutes April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016.



Christine Burke – Chairperson



James Morin

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Roberts Burns