



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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**Board of Water & Sewer
Commissioners**

Ed Burt, Chr
Christine Burke
James Morin

Hopedale Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners Minutes of August 8, 2019

The Hopedale Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners met on August 8, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the Draper Room of Town Hall. Members present were Chairperson Burt, Commissioner Burke and Commissioner Morin.

Consent Items

Minutes of the July 11th meeting – Commissioner Burke made a motion to approve the minutes of July 11th seconded by Commissioner Morin and made unanimous by Chairperson Burt.

Minutes of the July 23th meeting – Commissioner Burke made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 23th meeting and made unanimous by Chairperson Burt.

Appointments - None

New Business

- A. Discuss Petition to Intervene (Railroad land taking) – an update was filed but no new details. Chairperson Burt stated he was not sure if we needed to do anything additional at this time. Carol Mullen, resident gave the Board a copy showing the last update was signed on August 7th. Chairperson Burt stated what hit him was what was missing. There was no mention of our water and sewer concerns. Commissioner Burke feels the burden is on us. Commissioner Burke stated that a 30 day extension was accepted but feels we should send a letter stating we as a Board still need to intervene, reiterating our concerns. If we retain counsel should we use the same counsel as the Selectmen? The Board was in agreement that we should use different counsel. Commissioner Burke will draft a letter. The Board would like to discuss with Conservation feeling they should be able to tell us which area is protected and what 155 acres are in discussion. Commissioner Burke asked if we should have a joint meeting with the Conservation Committee in which Chairperson Burt felt we should. Representative Murray gave the Board contacts at DEP. There should be 2 people reaching out to us. Chairperson Burt stated that Representative Murray spoke with Senator Kennedy's office and feels very confident with what he heard. It was noted that the Fire Chief checked the fly ash silos and the report states there is something on the outside of the silos. Chairperson Burt stated he hasn't found another location that has a fly ash silo next to their water supply. Tim asked the Board how they want to proceed since we only have 30 days? Commissioner Burke feels we should coordinate with Board of Selectmen and Conservation Committee. Tim stated he will cc the Town Administrator, Steve Sette on

anything he receives. Commissioner Burke will deal with the Clear Air and Clean Water. Chairperson Burt will write a letter regarding water quality. Commissioner Burke stated she will contact other companies that filed to intervene as well.

- B. Ch. 40, Sec. 39J discussion – Tim stated he was contacted by Milford town council asking if we had ever adopted this section which would give us additional powers to set rates as needed. Tim stated it would be helpful with SRF funding, DEP will ask. There really is no change just checking a box.

Commissioner Burke made a motion to adopt MGL Chapter 40, sec 39J, seconded by Commissioner Morin and made unanimous by Chairperson Burt.

- C. Weston and Sampson Contract Amendment – the amended contract states they will be finished in November. There were delays to the original contract due to weather delays, issues with the primary clarifiers which could not be fixed until summer. Commissioner Burke asked if we could add to our damages.

Commissioner Burke made a motion we amend contract to extend professional services, up to \$72,000, seconded by Commissioner Morin and made unanimous by Chairperson Burt.

- D. DEP Inspection – the inspection went well, things mentioned were a lock on top of the water tank and keeping a log when we test the alarms. Commissioner Burke asked about the maintenance log that Dave is keeping, Tim stated that this would be added. It was mentioned that they are not requiring the Emergency Response Plan, but we need to update the SOP. Commissioner Burke asked if the water and sewer departments were going to handle this, Tim stated he will shop around since he feels we need an entire overhaul. We will receive a written report from DEP.
- E. Web Site Update – the Board would like whatever information we can share put on the website. It was brought up that we should separate all the railroad information on the website to its own folder so easier to access.

Old Business

- A. Water Research Update – approximately 10 locations were checked for its depth. The deepest hole was about 17' which is not deep enough. Currently our deepest wells are between 32' and 36'. Two of the bedrock wells are down at the Green Street station. One is down to 13 gallons and the other is down to 28 gallons. Both were shut off. Tim had a company in to see about cleaning the 13 gallon well. We spent \$13,000 to clean in October and it lasted less than a year.
- B. Peer Review – the review has been completed and 4 items were recommended. Tim will go back to get more understanding.
- C. WWTP update - previously discussed

Manager's Report – Cape Road, Mendon, fire lines only were approved, not the tie in fees. We currently charge our residents fire line fees should Mendon fire line users also get charged. Does our contract need to be updated to have this included. Tim feels Mendon will collect the tie in fees and Hopedale should bill Mendon for the quarterly fire lines. Currently we invoice Mendon for water, hydrant fees and assessment charges, we need to add another line for fire lines. We will need to know size of fire lines. nothing additional to discuss

Other topics not reasonable anticipated by chairman within 48 hours

Commissioner Morin made a motion to adjourn at 8:04 P.M. seconded by Commissioner Burke and made unanimous by Commissioner Burt.

I attest to the best of my knowledge that this is a true and accurate recording of the minutes of August 8th, 2019.



Ed Burt – Chairperson



Christine Burke



James Morin