



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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**Board of Water & Sewer
Commissioners**

Ed Burt, Chr
James Morin
Adam Anderson

Hopedale Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners Minutes of July 14, 2022

The Hopedale Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners met July 14, 2022, at 6:00 P.M. in the Draper Room of Town Hall. Members present were Chairperson Burt and Commissioner Morin.

Consent Items

Minutes of the June 2nd meeting – Chairperson asked that they be discussed at a later date, seconded by Commissioner Morin.

Minutes of the May 12th meeting – Commissioner Morin made a motion to approve the minutes of May 12th and made unanimous by Chairperson Burt. All in favor, Morin – Aye, Burt – Aye

New Business

A. Water & Sewer Request for Mike Sayles – Steele Rd. – Mr. Sayles is looking to install a bathroom in his garage. The tie in fee has been paid but wanted to discuss the impact fee of \$7,950. It was previously decided to evaluate each situation. Chairperson Burt does not feel this qualifies for the fee since it is strictly a bathroom in a garage.

Commissioner Morin made a motion to waive the sewer impact fee with the stipulation that the Board needs to be notified if it does become a home. This was seconded by Chairperson Burt.

Morin – Aye, Burt – Aye

B. Fireline & water service upgrade request 49 Milford St. – request goes back to 2015, they are looking to upgrade to a 2” line and put in a fireline. Tim stated he does not have an issue with this. The owner would have to work with Mendon, but nothing would be done until the tie in fees were paid.

C. Vacation carryover request (Tim Watson) – Tim asked if he could carry over 1 week of vacation.

Commissioner Morin made a motion to approve the 1 week of vacation carryover for Tim Watson, seconded by Chairperson Burt.

Morin – Aye, Burt – Aye

Old Business

- A. Update on new water tank site – The survey of the land will be done to see where the tank will sit. Once the survey is complete, borings will be done in regards to ledge. Chairperson Burt asked if the location previously discussed will remain the same in which Tim responded it would remain in that area. Chairperson Burt stated that if the location does change, we need to notify the residents. There was discussion regarding the funds and possible grant money in which Chairperson Burt stated he would try to attend the meeting regarding funds on July 19th.
- B. Engineering services for PFAS treatment – counsel reviewed and found no issues so it was signed by counsel, Diana Schindler, Town Administrator and the town Accountant. This has to be done by the beginning of the year so we can submit to the SRF.
- C. Sewer department capital program – will be meeting with the engineers again to discuss risers and weirs. Pilot test will be done regarding the removal of IFAS. The worms and snails have been a major nightmare. The removal of the IFAS has to be approved by DEP. If approved this will all be done within the working budget.
- D. Mill Street well field (replacement wells) – eleven 2 and 2 1/2" wells were installed with 7 or 8 of them being tied in. This has increased our withdrawal, so progress has been gained.
- E. Update on water restrictions – we are currently in stage 3 of our water ban. Odd numbered houses can water on Tuesdays and Thursdays before 9 A.M. and after 5 P.M. Even numbered houses can water on Wednesdays and Fridays before 9 A.M. and after 5 P.M. Residents were notified via reverse 911, website and local cable channel. We are hurting for water and implementing restrictions hurts our revenue, but restrictions are needed.
- F. West Street update – EPA Residual Designation 308 letter – Chairperson Burt had emailed the department documents to be put on the town website. Appeal is still moving forward and the initial filing still applies. Town meeting approved taking the property via eminent domain. Filed residual designation 308 letter regarding potential violations. There is a whole page of requests from railroad that has to be submitted by July 31st. EPA is taking the first step. The 308 letter was specific to our request. We received a copy of the enforcement order from Conservation that was given to the railroad today.

Correspondence

- A. Open meeting law violation complaint – the railroad has filed an open meeting law violation, feeling our description of the meeting that was held on June 2nd was not specific enough. Chairperson read a letter that was drafted by Town Counsel in response to the complaint.

Commissioner Morin made a motion to ratify the June 2nd vote regarding the EPA residual draft permit.

Morin – Aye, Burt - Aye

Managers Report – Tim informed the Board that everything is running smoothly. Have been working on carryovers and encumbrances, things have been busy. Counsel on Aging notified us regarding SMOC. This would help residents having trouble paying their water and sewer bills. This would only help residents that currently receive fuel assistance. The Board wants to make sure same rules apply if bills are paid late as all other residents and there will be no discounts given. Tim informed the Board that Dave Butler needs a new computer but will be paid for by numerous departments.

Chairperson Burt asked if any residents had any questions. There were none.

Commissioner Morin made a motion to adjourn at 6:47 P.M. and made unanimous by Chairperson Burt.

Morin – Aye, Burt - Aye

I attest to the best of my knowledge that this is a true and accurate recording of the minutes of July 14th, 2022


Ed Burt – Chairperson


James Morin

Adam Anderson