



## TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Board of Water & Sewer  
Commissioners

Robert Burns, Chair  
Christine Burke  
James Morin

### Hopedale Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners Minutes of June 11, 2015

The Hopedale Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners met on June 11, 2015, in the Draper Room of the Town Hall. Members present were Acting Chairperson Burke, Commissioner Morin and Commissioner Burns.

Commissioner Burns made a motion to reorganize the Board and appoint Christine Burke as Chairperson, seconded by Commissioner Morin and made unanimous by Chairperson Christine Burke.

#### **Consent Items**

Minutes of the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting - Commissioner Morin made a motion to approve the minutes of May 14<sup>th</sup> seconded by Commissioner Burns and made unanimous by Chairperson Burke.

**Appointments** – None

#### **New Business**

- A. Villa Drive Water line replacement – The finance committee may fund the reconstruction of Villa. If so, the water department will replace a 2" water line prior to the construction. Replacing the line at this time is beneficial for the department as we will not have to pay for paving when completed. The Board was informed that the capital reserve fund with a balance of \$100,000 can be utilized to fund the project if they so desire.

#### **Old Business**

- A. Solar Bids – town counsel informed the Board in writing that the solar bids are still being reviewed. They also suggested contacting the bidder to inform them that a third party is reviewing the bids and that we are aware that the National Grid credits have all been utilized. We will continue to review the bids and await legislation to vote on a new credit package.
- B. End of Year Budgets – as of the beginning of June, the water department has spent 83% of their budget, leaving them with approximately \$110,000. The sewer department has spent approximately 72% of their budget, leaving them with approximately \$220,000. All remaining monies after expenditure will be noted in the departments retained earnings.
- C. Water Restriction –after the Memorial Day weekend, water restriction were implemented for a mandatory no outside watering between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. as well as a mandatory odd/even watering schedule. Residents were notified via code red, posted signs and hand delivered notices in high irrigation system areas. With a few days of rain we should be back to normal.

- D. WWTP Design Contract – The engineers were asked to give us a contract strictly for the design phase for the Waste Water Plant. They should be attending our July meeting for a kick off meeting.
- E. Summer Projects – some of the projects the departments will be working on this summer are to repair, replace and paint hydrants, replace gate valves and to make repairs on the jet truck. These projects will be worked around vacations.

**Correspondence**

- A. Insurance Claim Cutler Street – the claim regarding the sewer backup at the homes of 7 and 9 Cutler Street were denied by the insurance company. The insurance company felt there was no fault, the Cutler Street station was maintained properly. Tim felt we should have had the residents contact their insurance companies and their insurance companies would have in turn contacted our insurance company. Chairperson Burke was under the impression that one of the alarms failed. Tim stated that one out of three phases failed. The Board was informed that we could appeal in which they decided we would do.

**Other topics not reasonable anticipated by chairman within 48 hours** – a public meeting will need to be held to adjust the water and sewer assessment charges. The water assessment will decrease slightly while the sewer assessment will increase slightly.

Chairperson Burke made a motion to hold a public hearing on July 9<sup>th</sup> in regards to adjusting the water and sewer assessments, seconded by Commissioner Burns and made unanimous by Commissioner Morin.

The recent mediation with the Police Union was also discussed. The private detail rate is higher with an 8 hour minimum. The police union had an issue with a job that was done on Prospect Street. The contractors dug the job but we did the work. This dispute is over \$74 but unfortunately we are spending thousands of dollars in legal fees. There was no agreement reached. Tim does feel this is something that needs to be resolved for future details so there will be no question.

Commissioner Morin made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. seconded by Commissioner Burns 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 June 11, 2015.

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Christine Burke – Chairperson

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James Morin

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Roberts Burns