

**APPROVED**  
5/13/2014

WATER-SEWER COMMISSION MEETING

April 8, 2014

Present: Leo Collette, Charlie Packard, George Cornwall, Val Daigle Dave Berger and Mary Calandrella

Absent: Steve Nims

Residents: Paul & Terri Maguire, Bob Fitchel, Bruce Johnson and Katherine Niles.

CALL TO ORDER

6:00pm

Motion to Approve the March 11, 2014 Agenda motion by Val Daigle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cornwall, vote was unanimous.

Motion to accept the March 11, 2014 minutes with date correction by Val Daigle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Charlie Packard, vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

-Leo addressed the residents in attendance on the agenda item: Boating Ban- Reconsider the vote taken on July 17, 2013, banning all boats on the town's reservoir effective January 1, 2014.

Bruce Johnson offered to the commissioners that old laws may supersede current laws governing the reservoir. Mr. Maguire presented a draft option for abutters only to have permission to boat on the reservoir. Leo state to all present that though this is not a popular vote to all those present but it is in the best interest for all supplied by the reservoir. Town counsel has agreed that the commissioners are acting well within their rights as commissioners. Leo read to all DEP's stand on the matter as well as NEWEA's opinion. There was a motion to reconsider the vote taken on July 17, 2014 on the boating ban from George Cornwall at the 5:30pm Work Session meeting and it was not seconded by any other commissioner. Boating Ban still in effective

Mr. Maguire asked the commissioner if he could present his proposal option on boating by the abutters at the next May Meeting. The commissioners all agreed to allow this at their next May meeting. Val wants on the May agenda under new business as well – Amending the boating ban for abutters.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Leo will be meeting with the DEP at their Worcester office to discuss the current 2009 withdrawal permit and the need to increase according to our increase in gallons pumped from the Treatment plant. Leo also will be meeting with the City of Gardner on their plans for sewer improvements at the treatment plant. Ashburnham will be liable for a portion of those proposed costs as stated in contract. Leo will report back to the commissioner on both these meetings.

NEXT MEETING

May13, 2014 at 6:00pm

ADJOURN

Motion by: Charlie Packard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cornwall, vote was unanimous. 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted by: *Mary Calandrella*

WATER-SEWER COMMISSION MEETING

Work Session

April 8, 2014

**APPROVED**  
5/13/2014

Present: Leo Collette, Charlie Packard, George Cornwall, Val Daigle Dave Berger and  
Mary Calandrella  
Absent: Steve Nims

CALL TO ORDER

5:30pm

Motion to Approve the March 8, 2014 Work Session Agenda motion by Val Daigle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by  
George Cornwall, vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

-The Commissioners were all in attendance to discuss their thought on the current boating ban. Leo stated that he spoke to a Kathy Romano at the DEP and discussed the DEP regulations and the powers of the commissioners. He also read NEWEA's thoughts and they were to strictly prohibit any use of any reservoir. Leo told the commissioners that town counsel notified Doug Briggs that the actions taken on July 17, 2014 can not be trumped by any town meeting vote or ballot question. The commissioners are well in their right to many any restriction to the reservoir. George Cornwall thinks they board is over reacting and that Bob Fitchel has a few other towns that allow boating on their reservoir one being Lake Cochichewick in Andover, MA.

George Cornwall made a motion to the commissioners to reconsider the July 17, 2014 vote, there was No second. Motion was denied

ADJOURN

Motion by: Charlie Packard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Cornwall, vote was unanimous. 5:55pm

Respectfully Submitted by: *Mary Calandrella*