

APPROVED
4/8/2014

WATER-SEWER COMMISSION MEETING

March 11, 2014

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

Absent: Val Daigle

Residents: Paul & Terri Maguire, Bob & Mary Jo Fitchel and Mr. & Mrs. Peter Timms, Ray Bresnahan and additional abutters to the reservoir.

CALL TO ORDER

6:00pm

Motion to Approve the March 11, 2014 Agenda motion by George Cornwall, 2nd by Charlie Packard, vote was unanimous.

Motion to accept the February 11, 2014 minutes by Charlie Packard, 2nd by George Cornwall, 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. The abutters spoke again on their concerns with the decrease property values if such ban takes effect and that they feel that their experts previously brought to the commission show little signs of the water being contaminated if boating was still allowed. George Cornwall brought a **motion stating: To amend the vote taken on July 17, 2013 banning all boats on the reservoir effective January 1, 2014 and to allow homeowners on the lake/reservoir to have two boats on the lake, following current rules and regulations including adding a sticker program for abutters to identify their boats.** Discussions on this motion brought concerns from Mr. Fichtel as you would be creating two classes of citizens by allowing only abutters the right to boat on the reservoir and not any other resident. After a lengthy discussion George **retracted his current motion to amend the original vote of July 17, 2014.** The abutters were displeased with the commissioners and feel they are acting on fear and not facts. Leo stated it is the commissioner's responsibility to protect the town's ONLY drinking water body that supplies water to two communities and over 15,000 people and this has been his concern since the original vote. Dave Berger agreed on the ban as he has done his research on the matter and his goal is to protect the drinking water supply to two towns. After further discussions from both sides the commissioners agreed to have a work session in the next few weeks once they obtain the recommendations from the MASSDEP on this matter at hand. This reconsideration will be on April 8, 2014 agenda for further discussion

- Far Hill bond debt- Doug talked to town counsel and their current contract states that we can not charge any further bond debts to Far Hills. There is one line in and can only be charge once.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT

Leo met with Doug earlier in the week to discuss the W/S portion of the proposed new DPW building. Doug supplied Leo a copy of the breakdown and the potential layout of the building. Mary will make copies to hand out to the commissioners at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Work Session: TBD **Regular meeting:** April 8, 2014 at 6:00pm

ADJOURN

Motion by: Leo Collette, 2nd by George Cornwall, vote was unanimous. 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by: *Mary Calandrella*