

**Water/Wastewater Commissioners’  
Meeting Minutes  
December 15, 2009**

Present: Walter Murray, Chairman  
Robert Courage, Vice-Chairman  
Michael Putnam, Member  
David Boucher  
Evelyn Gendron

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Murray called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Appointments:**

Residents of 58 and 68 North Street – Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell were invited to attend this evening’s meeting to discuss options to separate the water pipe connecting their properties at 58A and 58B North Street from the Sipos property at 68 North Street. Prior to tonight’s 6:00 appointment, no response had been received from the Sipos family despite two attempts via certified mail inviting them to participate in the discussions and to recommend a resolution. The situation requiring a solution is that the water shut off to the Sipos’ Amherst property on North Street exists in the Caldwell’s Milford property on North Street. The recent title search performed on behalf of the Caldwells as part of the purchase of their home did not reveal the easement previously established on their property, nor did the water pipe connection become known to the Town of Milford during the recent upgrade of the water meter equipment at the Caldwell’s home. During discussions with the Caldwells, Mrs. Sipos called to inform the billing clerk that she was aware of the meeting this evening but was unable to attend. Commissioner Putnam, Vice-Chairman Courage and Chairman Murray reviewed the easement terms, and suggested the Caldwells would be better informed if they consulted with an attorney and/or the title company that performed the title search for exact interpretation of the easement’s language as the document indicated certain terms under which the easement would cease to be in effect. Chairman Murray said that this matter could not be resolved this evening.

Mr. Caldwell drew a not-to-scale sketch of the properties in relation to each other. Commissioner Putnam noted on the drawing where/how consideration may be given to separating the two properties’ water pipes, as a water “tee” and line to the curb box in front of the Caldwell’s home would be the responsibility of the Milford Water Department. The water line could be confirmed and documented using GPS. Assistant Superintendent Boucher said that creating a meter pit would be an option with associated costs. The commissioners agreed that Mr. and Mrs. Sipos would need to be informed of the pending property review/interpretations by the Caldwell’s title company and perhaps attorney, and that any digging could not be done until the spring. The Caldwells noted that they had not yet met their neighbors, the Sipos. Commissioner Putnam offered to meet with the

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Caldwells at their home on Saturday morning to inspect the condition of the water line inside their home to gauge the threat of a water leak, as the Caldwells said that the main shut off to the water lines to both homes drips and is rusty, and that they want to avoid any need to shut off water to the Sippos' home. The Commissioners thanked the Caldwells for attending this evening's meeting and the Caldwells said they would report findings of the anticipated continued research of the easement. Chairman Murray stated the Sipos family would again be contacted to initiate discussion.

At 7:00 p.m., while the Water Exploration agenda item was being discussed with other invited parties, Mr. Sipos, of 68 North Street, appeared before the commissioners and introduced himself. Commissioner Putnam excused himself briefly from the meeting to bring Mr. Sipos up to speed as to the discussions that had taken place, and said that the commissioners would invite Mr. Sipos to a future meeting when additional information is conveyed via the Caldwells.

Trombly Land - Water Exploration Site – Assistant Superintendent Boucher was introduced to Steve and Sean Trombly. Mr. Boucher distributed the two-phased draft land agreements prepared by Attorney Drescher, while Vice-Chairman Courage explained that the values and purposes of the two phases. The Tromblys have additional questions regarding the planned preliminary water exploration activities and the planned long-term usage and effects on the existing farmlands, some of these issues will need to be addressed by the hydro-geologists involved. Steve Trombly said that the draft agreements will be shared with their representatives familiar with such land agreements, and that they will contact the Commissioners with comments/adjustments to the draft documents in the near future.

### **Decisions:**

Approval of Final Minutes – Commissioner Putnam made the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held December 1, 2009. Vice-Chairman courage seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Request for Water Abatement - Refund– 35 Radcliffe Drive. – Commissioner Putnam made the motion to approve this abatement request as presented, in the amount of \$50.00, as a broken curb box requires fixing, and the customer's water had not been turned off. Vice-Chairman Courage seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Letter to Mr. Holder, Hampshire Dome – Commissioner Putnam made the motion to approve sending the draft letter presented by Mr. Boucher, which outlines the terms of the winter water use for snow removal operations at the Hampshire Dome, to Mr. Holder. Vice-Chairman Courage seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

### **Discussions:**

Curtis Well Renovations Update – Assistant Superintendent Boucher will contact Mr. Rene LaBranche for the anticipated date of receipt of the "punch list" i.e., painting, heater, security system, removal of Parco valve, etc. The commissioners did not immediately approve

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Payment Request #5 in the amount of \$88,975.21 forwarded by Mr. LaBranche. It is noted that this is not the “final” pay request for this project. Mr. LaBranche will communicate to Mr. Boucher the anticipated completion date by Englewood Construction.

Emergency Response Protocol – Mr. Boucher distributed copies of the logged attendance report forwarded from the Fire Department involving on-call services provided by Water Department employees. Chairman Murray will seek additional policy information from the Fire, Finance and Human Resources Departments.

CDL-B Requirement – Mr. Boucher suggested an inquiry be made as to which job descriptions actually warrant CDL-B licensure, which would be a cost-cutting measure. Upon discussion, no changes will be made to the job descriptions at this time.

**Information Items on Hold, Requiring No Decisions:**

Activity Reports – Reviewed by the commissioners; Mr. Boucher provided answers to the commissioners’ questions. Mr. Boucher would like the activity reports to be reformatted during 2010, so that the activities of the Water Utilities foremen, and their accountabilities, are better represented.

Collection System Garage Rehabilitation – Mr. Boucher itemized the progress.

Compressor Repair – Mr. Boucher said the repairs are almost complete.

**Future Appointments/Meetings:**

The next meeting of the Water and Wastewater Commissioners will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2009 at the Water Utilities Department, 564 Nashua Street.

**Adjournment:**

There being no other business before the commissioners, a motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Murray at 8:30 p.m. Commissioner Putnam seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn B. Gendron

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Walter E. Murray – Chairman

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Date

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Robert E. Courage – Vice-Chairman

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Date

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Michael E. Putnam – Commissioner

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Date