

LINCOLN AD HOC WATER COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2019 – 3:30PM
LINCOLN TOWN HALL - 148 MAIN STREET, LINCOLN, NH

APPROVED

Select Board Present: Tamra Ham and OJ Robinson.

Staff Present: Town Manager Burbank, Fire Chief Ron Beard, Public Works Director Nate Hadaway, and Water Plant Operator David Beaudin.

Ad Hoc Members Present: Taylor Beaudin, Paul Beaudin, Mark Ehrman, John Hettinger, Dennis Ducharme, Joe Conn, John Hettinger, and Jay Scambio.

Also Present: Chris Curran and Clifton Dauphine.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Town Manager Burbank called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

MOTION: “To approve the November 8, 2018 Ad Hoc Water Committee meeting minutes as presented.”

Motion: Nate Hadaway **Second:** John Hettinger **Motion carries**

MOTION: “To approve the November 29, 2018 Ad Hoc Water Committee meeting minutes as amended.

Motion: Nate Hadaway **Second:** John Hettinger **Motion carries.**

MOTION: “To approve the December 13, 2018 Ad Hoc Water Committee Meeting Minutes as presented.”

Motion: Dennis Ducharme **Second:** John Hettinger **Motion carries.**

II. ON GOING WATER CONCERNS

How much water protection should the town provide?

Town Manager Burbank stated that the residents of the town need to determine how much fire protection the town should be providing. There was much discussion on this matter throughout the meeting. It was decided that this question would be best answered after the town brings an engineer on board to see what upgrades are needed, however, all agreed that the town must have enough water protection to save lives.

Town Manager Burbank stated that he has given the situation a great deal of thought. He believes that the fix for this situation should have been addressed by the town thirty years ago. There is no quick or inexpensive fix at this point, as the Town of Lincoln has built what amounts to a small city. Burbank added that this matter all comes down to money; if money isn't an issue, then fire protection isn't either. Burbank explained that Fire Chief Beard has proposed a plan to add more staffing so that response rates in a fire/emergency event will be much quicker, which should help with life safety and fire suppression in the town. Million-gallon water tanks will not be built overnight and could take at least two years to build (from engineering to construction).

Town Manager Burbank stated that he is going to speak with the Select Board to determine how many more permits they want to be issued. There have been applications this week alone for five (5) new

homes. There are two (2) new hotels in the works as well as several developments that were pre-approved for construction.

John Hettinger questioned whether a design study has been done on what it would take to upgrade the Town's water system. Town Manager Burbank stated that it has not, but seems that would be the next logical step.

Dave Beaudin stated that he disagrees with the assessment that the Town has no fire protection. He stated that there is some level of fire protection. Chief Beard stated that per ISO standards, he needs 3500 gallons per minute for 3 hours to put out a fire. The town's water system, per the engineering report, cannot handle that at this time.

Sharing Water with Woodstock

Joe Conn explained that the Town of Woodstock has plenty of water that can be accessed. He added that he believes the two towns should join forces. Town Manager Burbank stated that he spoke with the Woodstock Select Board a few weeks ago and they have zero interest in working with Lincoln. Some discussion ensued.

ISO Ratings

The committee discussed current ISO ratings throughout New Hampshire. Paul Beaudin stated that from the research he has done, the ISO rating doesn't necessarily have a negative effect on insurance as long as the town responds to the recommendations made in the report. The ratings are not posted to the insurance companies unless a municipality refuses to take action. Dennis Ducharme stated that he spoke with his insurance company and they were not concerned with the current town's ISO rating.

Paul stated that he does agree with Dave Beaudin that the Town has adequate fire protection. He added that he believes limited development programs work very well, and that they give municipalities time to plan for development. Further discussion ensued.

Alternative Water Sources

Mark Ehrman stated that he agrees with the comment John Hettinger made earlier that if the Town does not know what alternatives are available as well as the associated costs (by an objective third party) then the Town really have no basis for making judgments and decisions about whether there is adequate fire protection. John Hettinger stated that the Town knows the system is inadequate. It needs to be determined what the Town needs to fight a fire effectively; what the Town needs to do to upgrade the current system, and estimate on how much it will cost. This must be determined before the Town can make any decisions.

Fire Chief Beard brought up the Fire Flow Assessment Report and the lack of available water storage. Chief Beard stated that the town needs to develop alternative water sources so that the town's water system is not damaged during a fire event. He explained that bringing in assistance from other municipalities is helpful but time is of the essence when most of the trucks are coming from north of Franconia.

Jay Scambio stated that the Town does have alternative sources which have been used to fight fires in the past such as the Loon snow making pipe and the river that runs right through town. Several agreed that these alternatives and associated costs really need to be examined as well as determining how much more water the Town really needs. Utilizing dry hydrants (the two up at Loon) as well as finding new locations for dry hydrants (Forest Ridge?) was also discussed. The committee also discussed the South Peak tank as well as other tanks located throughout town.

Chief Beard stated that there is a company, Got Big Water Associates, LLC that specializes in water supply for public fire protection which has evaluated several municipalities throughout New Hampshire. They evaluate every potential water source and for additional cost will assist in developing those sources. The assessment is completed over the course of two days for approximately \$2,000.

Next Steps

The committee agreed that the town may want to engage one engineer to look at alternative water solutions for the Fire Department, and another engineer who is familiar with the Town's water system to make recommendations for an upgrade. The committee agreed that they would like to pay the \$2,000 to engage Got Big Water Associates, LLC to assess the water needs for the Fire Department and draw up an RFP to bring on an engineer to make the recommendations for the upgrade to the water system.

III. UPCOMING MEETING

Water Metering

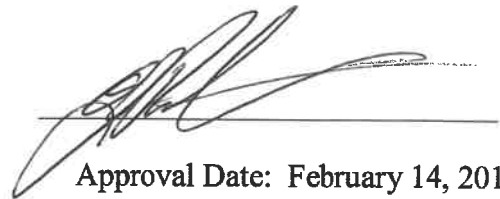
Dave Beaudin stated that a representative from Granite State Rural Water will be attending the next committee meeting to discuss the process of water metering.

The next meeting will be held on January 17th at 3:30pm.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brook Rose



Approval Date: February 14, 2019

