

# TOWN OF NORTH HAMPTON

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NORTH HAMPTON, NH 03862



## Water Commission

Henry Fuller, Co- Chair  
Robert Landman, Co-Chair  
Tim Harned, Secretary  
Richard Bettcher  
Jim Maggiore—Select Board

DRAFT

## Minutes of North Hampton Water Commission Meeting 23 Feb 2016

### Guests Present for Agenda:

Carl McMorran, Manager, NH Operations, Aquarion Water Co.  
John Walsh, VP of Operations, Aquarion Water Co.

### Commissioners in Attendance:

Robert Landman - Co-Chair  
Henry Fuller - Co-Chair  
Richard Bettcher - Water Commissioner

### Guests Present for Agenda:

Carl McMorran, Manager, NH Operations, Aquarion Water Co.  
John Walsh, VP of Operations, Aquarion Water Co.

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Bob Landman at 7:00 p.m. in the Heritage Conference Room, Old Town Office, North Hampton, NH.

### Minutes:

Review and discussion of prior meeting minutes from October 28, 2015 meeting.

#### Update on WICA:

The increase was postponed until April 1, 2014. This year, they will break even.

#### Eligible Well Monitoring Care

Nothing has been done on this.

#### Community Relations:

A correction had to do with striking the following sentence because Mr. Landman stated that he does not know any art teachers in North Hampton: "Mr. Landman said he would contact the local North Hampton art teacher to see if they might be interested."

### Environmental Champion

Nothing has been done on this.

### Eligible Well Monitoring

Nothing has been done on this.

### **Other Business:**

1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, revise Sentence #3 to: “ Mr. Landman said Home Depot is suppose to do this.”

Motion to approve minutes as amended was made by Mr. Bettcher. Motion seconded by Mr. Fuller.

Vote: Unanimous approval of amended minutes. .

### **Presentation by Carl McMorran from Aquarion:**

#### 3.1. WICA Rates:

Mr. McMorran began informing the Water Commissioners from the Handout of the Chart he had with him. Due to an oversight, he only had one copy with him tonight. Mr. Landman requested that he leave that copy with the Water Commissioners when he was finished tonight. Mr. McMorran agreed to do so.

The rates for WICA increased in January, 2016: +1.45% (= 3.99% now ).

### Operations – Hydrant Maintenance Summary

Based on the hydrant replacement work done at the 3 locations in the chart, the cost of these completed projects between October, 1, 2014 through to September 30, 2015, equaled approximately \$620,000.

The Chart in contains a quick summary of the Operating Highlights for 2015, which commissioners will have a copy of after the meeting tonight's meeting.

Aquarion produced 800 million gallons of water over the course of the year. Questioned about the percentage of leakages by Mr. Landman, Mr. McMorran replied that they refer to it as gallons lost. In 2014, there goal was 30 million gallons, which was met. Other part of the chart has to do with running meter services by the month for summer, including seasonals.

In the past year, there were a lower number of service outages then previous years. There were 7 events that water had to be shut off. Two were main breaks, which one was caused by a contractor. There were 5 frozen services. The average outage time was 4 ½ hours.

Regarding Water Quality, there needs to be a correction on the Chart. The water quality samples were collected through December, 2015, not September, 2015. Two thirds of the samples contained no trace of lead. PH balance runs between 8 and 8 ½. Phosphate is added to water which assists in these readings. Every 3 years, Aquarion does lead and copper sampling, since the 1990's

The Hydrant count is 151. Mr. Fuller questioned this number based on past records. Mr. McMorran shared that they are now using a Geographic Informational System, which a more reliable way of tallying hydrants then what was done previously. An explanation was given to the commissioners regarding what “back pressure” applies to in the chart.

In the Summary Table, it shows that 168 valves were exercised in 2015. There was \$35,000 in work orders. Additional conversation centered on definition of “walk-ins”; about some municipalities are collecting service fees for charge card usage and electronic payments, while others discount because of going “paperless”.

### Capital Projects

#### a. 2015 Summary

Aquarion spent \$1.4 million, which most of it pertained to main replacement projects. Additionally, some of the funds were used to replace 1 Truck and 1 Backhoe.

25 new services were added in 2015. 18 water service lines were replaced.

The well in Rye was decommissioned since it was running at half capacity. This removes it from the books.

### Itemized WICA Costs

\$170,000 was spent in the Boar’s Head area; \$176,000 on Ross Avenue; and \$420,000 on King’s Highway replacing old mains in Hampton.

NOTE: There is a Threshold for Hydrants/Valves if they exceed \$50,000, it counts towards WICA.

#### b. 2016 Proposals

Towle Farm Road - Main Transmission replacement

The following projects are in the design process and will be completed in 1 week’s time:

Intersection of Drakeside and Lafayette has a couple of inefficient mains due to poor configurations; Manchester Street, located down at the beach – too shallow; and Sunset Street, located on Boards Head, replace 2” main.

Dependent upon the responses from the Bid Process, it will determine which projects will be worked on this capital improvement year.

Aquarion will be distributing 562 new radio meters, to replace the older existing radio meters whose batteries have a life cycle of approximately 10 years.

### Other Business

Aquarion will be purchasing the wellhead located on Rt. 111, once the 15 year lease is up.

Re: WICA portion towards wells equals \$600,000. It will cover main replacements and anything over \$50,000 in hydrant services and valves. This equals \$111,000.

Limit of \$660,000 funding with WICA. Replacements only count with WICA.

Aquarion will be taking over the water system on Winterberry Lane and Wiggin Way in Stratham, whose water system has failed. This will add 39 new services to Aquarion.

Mr. McMorran stated that he would like to return to the Water Commission in July/August, 2016 time frame. By then he will be able to have a better idea as to the WICA and Capital Budgets. Also, by this time, the monthly billing will have been rolled out.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Landman made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Co-Chair  
Bob Landman, Commissioner