

Groton Water Commission

Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

1st Floor Selectman's Meeting Room – Town Hall

Minutes

Present are BOWC Chairman James Gmeiner, Vice Chairman Hogle, Member David Crocker, Water Superintendent Thomas Orcutt.

Guests: J. Luening, A. Prest, B Strickland, C. Macy, S. Horowitz, C & B. Forbes

Mr. Gmeiner called the regular BOWC meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Baddacook Pond

The Board began by discussing their position regarding the proposed Sonar application on Baddacook Pond. Gary had researched the issue with Lake Cochituate in Natick and that the BOS and BOH agreed that Sonar should not be applied to this water body and that a hydro-geologist did confirm that Sonar would enter the drinking water supply. Treatment in the form of GAC would be expensive to install and maintain. Also, there were very few studies done on Sonar (N. Carolina and Cornell) that he felt comfortable with findings. In addition, the long term health affects are not known at all.

There was also a discussion regarding the BOWC's mandate in the Town Charter that it must uphold – i.e. "to protect the public drinking water resources of the Town". There was also a discussion regarding other chemicals in the Public Drinking Water Supply and the Board was aware of this. The Board also felt that in the interests of the Water Rate Payers, they saw no "upside" to the Sonar application and that Open Space, fisherman and water front property owners were not at the forefront of their duties/charge under the Charter. The Board also stated that Baddacook was very different from Lost Lake and even Spectacle Pond in terms of the location of its drinking water wells and overall geology. There was also some discussion regarding testing the wells more frequently for Fluridone in Lost Lake, but they did not take a position on this.

The Board voted the following motion from Commissioner Hogle – the BOWC's is not in favor of adding Sonar treatments to Baddacook Pond and that the BOWC's position is to protect the public drinking water resources for the town and it is in their best interests to protect the water rates payers. Motion seconded by Commissioner Crocker. There was no discussion. The Board voted unanimously not to support the Sonar application in Baddacook Pond.

Minutes:

There were no minutes submitted for approval at this meeting.

Bills:

The bills presented to the Board were all signed and submitted for payment.

Mr. Hogle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Mr. Crocker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Orcutt
Water Superintendent

James Gmeiner _____ Date _____

Gary Hogle _____ Date _____

David Crocker _____ Date _____