

Water Study Committee & Master Plan Subcommittee  
Joint Meeting Minutes – September 18, 2014

Note: Draft Minutes are subject to review, correction and approval. Review and approval of Minutes generally takes place at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The September 18, 2014 joint meeting commenced at 3:00 p.m. at property owned by Homestead Woolen Mills located off West Street (Tax Map 81, Lot 8). Present were: Glenn Page (MP & WSC), Scott Self (MP & WSC), Don Skiba (MP & WSC), Steven Bittel (WSC) [left meeting at 4:58 p.m.], and Sly Karasinski (WSC). Also present was Sara Carbonneau, Director of Planning and Community Development, Rick Skarinka and Dan Dudley from NH DES, and Dan Rouleau from Homestead Woolen Mills.

Well sites 1 & 2 were viewed by the group on the West Street property and then all proceeded to California Street to view the well site located on Tax Map 73, Lot 15. Following the conclusion of the site inspection off California Street, the meeting re-convened at Town Hall.

Dudley stated that the wells are inspected on a 3 year rotation – well inspection will take place this fall. After the 2011 inspection, some upgrades were required and completed. Skarinka noted that the water company system is not designed for fire protection (notably because there is not adequate water storage). It was strongly suggested that the size of the pump house serving wells #1 and #2 should be increased. Skarinka stated that installing a water tank above the pump house (so that it is not below grade) would be preferable. Skarinka suggested calling Randy Heglin in Jaffrey to view its water system. Suggested that installing security cameras may be a good idea. Access road to wells #1 and #2 was improved recently and is in good shape. Funding for improvements was discussed – if town acquires system, could pass ordinance to require people to hook-up to the system. Rates for public water systems can be found on DES's website. California Street well (well #3) is not in DES's data base. Skarinka stated that he was unable to locate any information on well #3 at DES. Suggested contacting Christine Bowman at DES. Discussion regarding getting well #3 back on line – Skarinka felt that it may need completely new permitting (including large ground water withdrawal and permitting of community water supply), which could be an expensive proposition. Noted that having water storage tanks on opposite side of the river from the wells would be preferable, especially since the water line crosses the river. Stated that a 400 foot protective well radius should be enacted. May need to obtain easements for the same.

Records review/research needs to be done. Contact Sally Brown at WSWC for copies of her records. Also, review records at NH PUC and NH DES. Question re ownership of the wells – since the WSWC does not own the property upon which the wells are located (the well sites are owned by Homestead Woolen Mills). Skiba, Page and Carbonneau will arrange to review records in Concord.

Financing through the State Revolving Loan fund was discussed. Rates are favorable at this time for 20 to 30 year loans. Felt that the system was operational as is, but money should be put aside for future improvements. Noted that the life-cycle of the tanks could possibly be extended. Skarinka recommended that the town hire a water system engineer to assess the system.

Decided that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 16th, at 4 p.m., again as a joint meeting. Meeting will be held at Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Sara H. Carbonneau  
Secretary to the Committee