

Moose Hill Water Commission Meeting Minutes

Minutes of April 3, 2019

Members present: Kurt Parliment, Chair; Harry Brooks, Carl Wicklund

Meeting called to order at 6:07PM

Mr. Parliment announced that Mr. Wicklund was planning on resigning and said that his position would be up for vote this year. Mr. Parliment stated that he and Mr. Brooks will still be on the Board for a little bit longer but said they had called a meeting to discuss the elimination of the commission.

Mr. Parliment stated that Moose Hill had gotten well past the point of anybody in town wanting to continue doing this. He commented that it's already up to \$15 million to get something done this year and said that by the time they get done with all the regulations that are required by DEP, it could reach \$25 million or higher. Mr. Parliment stated that there was no way the town could afford that and commented that the commission had reached the end of the road. He stated that the water will still be owned by the Town of Leicester.

Mr. Parliment asked the commission members for their thoughts.

Mr. Wicklund stated that this was the second term that he would be finishing. He commented that all the years he has been on this commission there has never been any positive move to develop the project. He said that he's reached a point where he is really frustrated that there was never any commitment to move this project forward or to join efforts to get it done. Mr. Wicklund stated that the only positive thing that has happened was the extension of the Route 9 pipe to the Spencer line. He stated that it seemed as though after that happened, he said that all motivation and thought just stopped.

Mr. Wicklund commented that he had noticed over the past 6 years that the state seems to develop new rules and regulations for bringing surface water up online for water supply. He stated that he felt that there was never any real regard for their urgent need. He said that after looking at the current situation with the town with the Cherry Valley Water district, the Sewer District and the Highway Department needs, there just is not enough money in the bucket to even start to bring this project online. Mr. Wicklund stated that if there no money in the bucket, he can't see why they should continue to meet when there is no forward movement. He said that he feels it's a shame and thinks that the town needs this water supply to not only develop something new but to also add as a backup for the water districts in town. He stated that he realizes it just will not happen.

Mr. Brooks stated he had nothing else to add, he said that he had the same sentiments as Mr. Wicklund.

Mr. Parliment asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Greg Buteau, 2 Merrick Street, addressed the commission members. He thanked Mr. Wicklund, Mr. Brooks and r. Parliment for their efforts for trying to bring this project forward. He also

agreed that the project needs a big bucket of money. Mr. Buteau stated that it was sad and thinks this is a great resource and said that the town should not give it up. He again thanked the commission members for their efforts.

A man from the public, who didn't identify himself, commented that Mr. Wicklund had expressed himself well. He asked if there was a way to not disband the commission but maybe just put it "on ice". Mr. Parliment stated that it was his understanding that the town will always own the water whether the commission is here or not. The man asked if anyone has tried to get any type of money for this project or if anyone had applied for any type of grant. Mr. Parliment said that once the town went over 10,000 people, one of the grants was no longer available. Mr. Brooks stated that there were district meetings with Senator Moore and State Representative David LeBoeuf, and said that everybody was working together to try to find solutions. The man commented that he feels that the state should be doing more.

Mr. Brooks stated that they were with DEP and EPA last week and he said that they received a letter from them about how much it would cost and he commented that they will never put this water supply online. Mr. Brooks stated that they would never get people to vote for \$30 to \$40 million dollars for this project.

Another man, who didn't identify himself, asked what had been done with pipe installed on Route 9 and Mr. Parliment answered that Leicester was using that pipe. The man thanked the members for putting the work in on this commission.

Mr. Parliment again reiterated that the commission has been spinning their wheels. The man asked if the commission would consider leaving it open and passing on the torch to other people and Mr. Parliment said that it had been well over 10 years that he's been involved and said that he's personally has had it. The man stated that he would be more than happy to fill the vacant position that Mr. Wicklund was resigning from. Mr. Parliment stated that they will look into more information before finalizing the dissolution.

Approval of Minutes:

5/8/2018

MOTION: Mr. Brooks moved to approve the minutes of May 8, 2018.

SECONDED: Mr. Wicklund – Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

Water District

Mr. Brooks asked the commission members to make a vote on the feasibility study.

MOTION: Mr. Brooks motioned to support as a commission.

SECOND: Mr. Wicklund – Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

Next meeting To Be Determined after Mr. Books notifies the commission on funding approval.

MOTION: Mr. Wicklund moved to adjourn.

SECONDED: Mr. Brooks – Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

Meeting adjourned at 6:43PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Wanda Merced, Department Assistant