

Town of Hebron
HES DRINKING WATER REMEDIATION BUILDING COMMITTEE
November 09, 2018
Special Joint Meeting
(with Hebron BOE and Town Building Committee)

Members Present: R. Steiner, W. Warwick, D. Foster, M. Leichter

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: T. Van Tassel-Superintendent of Schools, S. Leven BOE Financial Assistant,
W, Durocher- BOE Custodial Foreman

Board of Selectman Liaison: John Collins

Guests: Kevin Williams-BOE member

Citizens Present: None

1.) Call to Order

Wayne Warwick, Chairman of the Hebron Town Building, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2.) The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3.) Public Comment – None

3A.) Facilities Tour

A tour of the Hebron Elementary School was conducted by Maintenance Forman Wayne Durocher. He brought the committee through all areas of the building that would be addressed as part of the lead abatement project including utility rooms, crawl spaces, and the well pump house. He provided a line drawing showing the basic layout of the water distribution system and explained all the filtration and other systems in place to remove copper, lead, and bacteria. He explained that some of these measures could be discontinued at the completion of this project but that will be decided by the design professional as the project proceeds. This will also require the approval of the Connecticut State Department of Health, Drinking water section

He explained that some water lines do travel underground to connect from various wings of the building. Mr. Durocher also pointed out that there are lots of “dead ends” in the current system and that the exact locations of some pipes are unknown

4.) Charge of the committee

Minutes from the November 2, 2018 Board of Selectman were read by Mal Leichter. He read the three resolutions that pertained to the building committee and explained that these are required by the state of Connecticut department of administrative services (DAS). A lengthy discussion followed the reading as to what the actual charge was and the fact that it was the committees charge to provide a minimum of a schematic design, that any and all expenditures must be approved by the board of selectman and the board of finance prior to the expenditures being made. Further discussion pointed out that these financial requirements would remain in effect until the full project expenditure is approved by the legislative body of the town

5.) Appointment of Project Chairman

Richard Steiner nominated Mal Leichter to be chairman of HES Drinking Water Remediation Building Committee. No other nomination we received. Nominations were closed. Vote to approve Mal Leichter as chairman of the committee passed 4 aye and 0 nay.

At this time the meeting was turned over to Mal Leichter to preside by the Chairman of the Hebron Town Building Committee Wayne Warwick.

6.) Appointment of Project Specific Committee Members

Superintendent Tim Van Tasel recommended Erica Bromley and Kevin Williams be appointed to the HES Drinking Water Remediation Building Committee to represent the Board of Education's interests in the project. The recommendation of the superintendent were accepted by the committee and a discussion ensued as to the process of appointment. Mal Leichter will follow up with the Town Managers office and if BOS appointment is required, request that it be done at the 11-15-2018 BOS meeting. If it is not required he will contact Kevin and Erica and ask them to see the Town Clerk to be sworn in ASAP.

Staff assisting in the project will be Tim Van Tasel-Superintendent of Schools, Stephanie Leven-BOE Financial Assistant, Wayne Durocher-BOE Custodial Foreman.

7.) Organizational and Administrative Items

A sheet of paper was passed around so that all present could provide their contact information. Mal Leichter will organize the contact information into a document and distribute it prior to the next meeting.

A discussion was had to talk about and agree on a regular meeting schedule for the term of the project. After multiple suggestions and input from all it was decided that the committee's regular meetings would be on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month except were they conflict with holidays or other items. All meetings will be held at Hebron Elementary School in the Library – Media Center. Meetings will begin at 06:30

Mal Leichter will prepare a proposed regular meeting schedule based on the above information. It will be review at the next meeting an adjusted as required. Once the schedule is approved it will be submitted to the Town Clerks office for posting

He went on to explain that all meetings, beginning on November 19th, will be on the schedule however meetings must be warned as Special Meetings until 30 days following submission to the town clerks office for posting. He explained this is a requirement of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act.

8.) Summary of Project By Superintendent Van Tassel

Superintendent Van Tassel provided a full background on the lead problem to date. He also shared all discussions with the BOE's certified Public Water System (PWS) operator, the Chatham Health District, and the state department of health. It is the opinion of all of these professionals the only way to address the current situation with the HES drinking water is to replace the plumbing. Based on his professional expertise John Collins added that trying to control both the Ph and preventing lead from leaching into the water is a near impossible task. He said that the nature of the issue is if you reduce the level of one of the metals the other one will increase based on the chemistry required to adjust the levels. John went on to explain that even though the state accepts low levels of lead to be in drinking water, any amount of lead is dangerous to children because their brains are in a formative stage. John stated that he believes that this issue needs to be address immediately and not wait for the summer of 2019.

Tim report that he has been in contact with DAS and that this project will be classified as a non-priority project which means it can be approved very quickly and does not have to go through the legislative process. The projects allowable expenses, under the provisions of the building code violations, will be reimbursed to the Town of Hebron at a rate of 54%.

Tim went on to distribute several handouts and he and Stephanie explained the state process to receive the grant for reimbursement. They emphasized that we MUST follow the process to the letter in order not to risk the loss of the reimbursement for this project.

9.) Next Steps and Initial Timeline

The committee must receive a dollar amount that will be required to complete the preparation of schematic design portion of the project. That number will be forwarded to the BOS and BOF for their approval. The superintendent reported that a representative from BL Companies may be willing to work with the committee to obtain that estimate. He will pursue the offer and attempt to schedule a meeting with BL.

10.) Other Pertinent Items

None

11.) Adjournment

Motion made by David Foster to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Richard Steiner. Meeting was adjourned at 05:47 PM. meeting with BL.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mal Leichter