

SPECIAL WATER COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2001
6:30 P.M.

Meeting held for the purpose of discussion on formation of a district.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Dunbar and Samuel Briguglio. Robert Moorehouse, absent.

GUESTS PRESENT: Superintendent Paul Rafuse and Carole Stone, Clerk.

Chairman Dunbar opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Supt. Rafuse reported he had contacted the City Solicitor and Town Counsel Association, and they highly recommended Attorney Jacob Diemert of Acton as the "guro of district legislation". Paul presented his resume to the Board. His rate is \$240.00 and hour, plus expenses. Sam inquired if he gave any indication of how many hours it would take, and Paul said not at this time but that he would be happy to meet with the Board. Commissioners requested Paul to get two more resumes and rates for comparison. Paul also to invite Atty. Diemert to the December 18, 2001 meeting and to check if he charges a consulting fee.

Commissioners reviewed John Daniel's presentation on Massachusetts districts and their differences, etc. Paul distributed a worksheet based on Mr. Daniels' chart to help define what we want for a district such as name of district, enabling legislation, type of district, boundaries, by-laws, bonding authority, etc.

Some discussion on defining the boundaries with regard to Witches Brook Water Company (Timberlee Park). Discussed whether to exclude them or include them within the town boundaries in case they decide to become part of the district in the future. Discussion also held on voting rights of the district, whether they be taxpayers, resident taxpayers within the district or voters within the district, etc. Questions were brought up on the transfer of assets, health insurance, etc. It was determined these and other issues are what an attorney could help us address.

Paul noted that our current "charter" states regarding authority that we are subject to any rules and regulations as the town may impose by vote. He stated that even if we don't become a district, our current "charter" is outdated and needs to be revised.

Commissioners requested Paul to ask Town Accountant, Richard Choate his opinion on how we could finance the expense related to the formation of a district, either from surplus funds or would we have to put it in our operating expense budget.

Carole inquired about whether or not to keep district minutes separate from the regular meetings. The Commissioners and Superintendent agreed they should be separate.

Motion made and voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Next district meeting to be held on December 18, 2001.

Respectfully,

Carole Stone, Clerk

