

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
September 28, 2009

Attending:

Councilor Thomas Brann	Town Manager Susan Lessard
Councilor Jean Lawlis	Public Works Director Chip Swan
Councilor Andre Cushing	Water Dist. Supt. Cam Torrey
Councilor William Shakespeare	Foreman Dudley Patterson
Councilor Janet Hughes	Jamie Holyoke, Water District
Mayor Matthew Arnett	

The meeting was opened at 6 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a request from the Water District that the Public Works Department take over plowing/cleaning out of some of the fire hydrants.

Superintendent Torrey explained that the loader that the District uses for cleaning out hydrants is more than 20 years old and in need of replacement. The Water District provided a map that shows the hydrant system in Hampden.

Public Works Director Swan explained that he was not in favor of having the Town do plowing of any hydrants because the public works department was too busy after storms to add that as a responsibility. A letter that he had written to the Town Manager stating this position was provided to the Town Councilors.

Councilors present asked questions of the Water District in regard to how often a loader was used, how many man hours it took to clean out hydrants, etc.

The Manager stated that since the Town had committed to work with the District to look for possible ways to work together that a more in-depth consideration of the request should occur, including review of the hydrant map by Public Works to determine if there were any hydrants that were in areas where Public Works already cleaned out snow.

Motion by Andre Cushing, seconded by Matthew Arnett to place this item on the next Infrastructure Committee agenda on October 26th to allow the Public Works director time to review the hydrant map with the plowing routes to see if there were opportunities for the Town and Water District to work together. Vote 6-0.

The meeting of the Water District Trustees and the Town Council, which is held every six months, will also be held on October 26th as part of the Infrastructure Committee meeting which begins at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Lessard
Town Manager