



Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, Feb 8, 2024 6 PM

Emergency meeting called to order per RSA91-A:2ii at 6:04 PM at the Hampstead Middle School Library. In attendance Trustees Natalie Gallo (Chair), Charlene Flaherty, Ronnie Shelley; Kate Thomas Library Director.

1. Kate received a letter on Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from Gary Barnes, owner of the business condo buildings next to the library and provider of our water. The letter states that the expenses to offer us free water have tripled and he is forced to bill us \$2000 for 2023, however, he couldn't explain how he reached that figure. Kate read the letter to the trustees. Kate then explained the previous interactions with Mr. Barnes regarding the water for the library in 2014. We paid for one-quarter of the repair costs for the well's refurbishment after failure at the end of 2013 with part of the funds coming from the town. At that time, as noted in April 16, 2014 HPL Trustee minutes, he stated that he decided not to enter into a contract to charge the library a fee for water. Kate spoke to him on the phone on Feb 8, 2024, asking for a more detailed invoice with specifics, since the trustees would need that in order to pay the invoice. He said he wasn't going to hunt for all those details, and that if we didn't want to pay it, he would shut off our water and that we should join the Hampstead Area Water Company. Due to this response, Kate called Natalie, who sought to call an emergency meeting.  
Natalie stated we should tell our Library Liaison, Joe Guthrie and get him involved to help address the problem. Trustees don't have enough information to make any decisions, nor do we have any valid information or specifics to legitimately pay anything. There is no water meter to measure usage. This meeting is for fact sharing of this current issue.
2. Motion to adjourn by Charlene, seconded by Ronnie. Meeting adjourned: 6:32 PM

Next meeting Feb 20, 2024 1:30 PM