

INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS REPORT

Gasoline Pumps	..	15	2	
Oil Measuring Pumps	..	70	30	
Grease Meas. Pumps	..	24	..	
Quan. Meas. on Pumps (ea.)	2	205	..	
Kerosene Pumps	..	5	..	
Linear Measures:				
Yard Sticks	..	13	..	
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	Totals	9	839	33
				17
Sealing and Adjusting fees for 1938				\$99.63
Unpaid fees				.50

Respectfully submitted,
EDWARD HATCH, Sealer.

REPORT OF THE ANIMAL INSPECTOR

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen of Hingham:

I wish to submit the following report as Animal Inspector.

Twenty-two dogs were restrained and released as being suspected of having rabies. There were no cases of rabies in the Town the past year.

Stables inspected	84
Cattle	550
Goats	40
Sheep	11
Swine	550

Five hundred and fifty (550) head of cattle were imported from out of State and were inspected and released by me.

Respectfully submitted,
THOMAS MACKENZIE,
Inspector of Animals.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
WATER SUPPLY

To the Citizens of Hingham:

The Committee appointed to consider all matters relative to the Water Supply of the Town of Hingham, respectfully submit their report.

COMMITTEE ON WATER SUPPLY

WATER SUPPLY

No complaints have been received from consumers relative to the quality of the water or the adequacy of supply.

The matter of color and taste referred to in our report of 1937 seems to have been eliminated with the adoption by the Water Company of the treatments suggested by the State Department of Health.

AMENDMENT TO THE HINGHAM WATER COMPANY
CHARTER

As set forth in our last report, the Selectmen and the Committee on Water Supply co-operating, have been endeavoring to have a judicial construction placed upon the original act chartering the Hingham Water Company in order to safeguard the interests of the town, particularly with reference to the language of a part of Section Eleven of that act which reads as follows:

“The Town of Hingham shall have the right at any time during the continuance of the charter hereby granted, to purchase the corporate property, and all the rights and privileges of said Company at the actual cost of the same, together with interest thereon at a rate not exceeding ten per centum per annum, said cost to include all actual loss or damage paid or suffered by said company for injury to person or property, deducting from said cost any and all dividends which may have been paid by said corporation.”

It appeared that a question had been raised by some of the interested parties as to the constitutionality of the proposed amendment to the original act. With this in mind, and for the purpose of determining the status of the proposed amendment, it was our desire to have the Legislature seek an opinion of the Supreme Court in relation thereto, and such a course was strongly urged upon the Legislative Committee on Water Supply. It was felt that such an opinion would aid the town in clarifying the situation, so that we would be in a better position to determine the probable cost of the property should the town decide to take it.

Accordingly, as previously reported, in the early spring of 1938 the Legislature sought an opinion from the Supreme Court upon the constitutionality of the proposed amendment. The Justices of that Court advised the Legislature that in their opinion the legislation which the town proposed amending the original act would be unconstitutional, in that it

COMMITTEE ON DREDGING HINGHAM HARBOR

would violate property rights of the company respecting due process of law. While this decision is not decisive as by the practice of the Supreme Court no facts or arguments are allowed in the consideration of questions presented to it by the Legislature, it has been deemed prudent on the part of the town not to proceed further in the matter for the present at least.

WILLIAM L. HOWARD
DANIEL A. SHEA
WILLIAM J. LEIGH
ARTHUR C. WISE
WILLIAM H. SEAVER
Committee on Water Supply
Town of Hingham

COMMITTEE ON DREDGING OF HINGHAM HARBOR

The Committee appointed by the Moderator at the last Town Meeting in connection with the mooring basin at Crow Point and the filling of the marsh and parking space at the Town Bathing Beach respectfully submits the following report:

A survey of the area to be dredged at Crow Point and the area to be filled at the Town Bathing Beach was made by the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth. A plan was prepared and approved by the Commissioner of Public Works and the Trustees of the Town Bathing Beach.

General releases for damages were obtained from all owners of riparian property bordering on the proposed basin at Crow Point.

The contract in the sum of \$20,000 was duly awarded to the lowest bidder, the Bay State Dredging and Contracting Company, by the Department of Public Works. As agreed, the Department of Public Works contributed the sum of \$15,000 and the Town of Hingham the sum of \$5,000 appropriated at the last Town Meeting for this project.

The contract provides that 25,000 cubic yards of material shall be removed from the harbor at Crow Point so as to make a mooring basin of a depth of six (6) feet at near low water, and that the material so removed shall be deposited on the land at the Town Bathing Beach.

The original plan called for the excavation at Crow Point by a suction dredge, and for the pumping of the material through a pipe line approximately one mile long, to the land at the Bathing Beach. The cost under this plan was excessive. Therefore, another plan was adopted providing for the excavation at Crow Point by a clam-shell dredge, loading the material upon scows, towing it into the inner harbor, and dumping it near the land at the Town Bathing Beach, where a suction dredge would pump it onto the area to be filled at the Town Bathing Beach. However,