



Town of Hull



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
HULL, MASSACHUSETTS 02045
(781) 925-2000

April 18, 2019

Paul Healey, Chair
Board of Selectmen
Town of Hingham
Hingham Town Hall
210 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

Dear Chairman Healey and Members of the Board:

We respectfully request that this letter be read into the official record of the Hingham Town Meeting that commences on Monday, April 22, 2019.

At our meeting, this evening, Thursday, April 18th, 2019, our Board voted unanimously to support the Town of Hingham's proposal to purchase the water system from Aquarion. Our Board is appreciative of the six-year travail by Hingham representatives to fully explore and define the overwhelming benefits of returning this essential service to the public domain.

Our Town's have a strong and positive history of working well together and we fully expect this to continue. The re-acquisition of the water system will for the first time in over one hundred years place all the key decisions of this essential public utility in the hands of local rate payers. Further, all revenue generated from the sale of water will remain with local rate payers and under the control of local rate payers. We will no longer be held hostage the voracious needs of shareholders that place short term profits over long term system needs.

All our residents will benefit from increased transparency in the planning, budgetary, capital and rate setting process as all meetings will be held consistent with the open meeting law and the new enterprise account expenditures will be approved by rate payers annually. In short, local governance and transparent operations will bring great financial and consumer benefits.

While we recognize there are some vocal discordant voices in each of our Town's they do not speak for all rate payers nor represent any official position. As the duly elected chief policy setting body for the Town of Hull, and on behalf of the residents of the Town of Hull, we urge the participants at the 2019 Hingham Town Meeting to approve of the purchase of the Aquarion water system and return to public control this vital asset.

Domenico Sestito, Chair
Town of Hull Board of Selectmen