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Aquarion To Host Water System Takeover Community Discussion

HINGHAM, MA. - In an effort to ensure that residents have the facts necessary to make an informed decision when Hingham officials ask them to vote to acquire Aquarion's award-winning water system serving Hingham, Hull, and north Cohasset, Aquarion will be holding the second in a series of forums on August 13 at 6:30 PM at the South Shore Country Club.

When Hingham officials initiated a takeover study in 2012, Town Meeting tasked them with completing a comprehensive review of financials, governance, and engineering. Now, more than six years later, the study is incomplete. Moreover, Court rulings have resulted in a price double the amount that Town officials had originally calculated, and well in excess of the \$75 million ceiling previously set by town officials.

"Our customers are telling us that there are still a lot of questions about the attempt by Hingham officials to acquire the water system," said John Walsh, Aquarion's Vice President of Operations. "We believe that when residents learn more about the financial costs of the purchase, the financial and operational uncertainty now borne by Aquarion, and the difficulties that may be encountered if Hingham is responsible for operating and maintaining a water system on behalf of residents and businesses in Hingham, Hull, and north Cohasset, they will conclude that continued operation by Aquarion is the best option. Aquarion understands that all citizens need complete information to make this decision, and to carefully evaluate the \$112 million borrowing that is contemplated by the Selectmen. Aquarion looks forward to being a constructive participant in this discussion concerning the single largest financial decision Hingham has ever faced." said Walsh.

The upcoming Aquarion forum is open to the community and will provide residents from all three towns the opportunity to ask questions about the impact that a takeover of the water system by Hingham would have on rates, water quality, water supply, and infrastructure investment.

About Aquarion Water Company of Massachusetts:

Aquarion Water Company of Massachusetts is the public water supply company for more than 50,000 people in the towns of Hingham, Hull, North Cohasset, Millbury, and Oxford. Aquarion Water Company is the largest investor-owned water utility in New England, and it has been in the public water supply business since 1857. Across its operations, Aquarion strives to act as a responsible steward of the environment and to assist the communities it serves in promoting sustainable practices. Aquarion Water Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of [Eversource](#).

For more information on Aquarion Water Company and its subsidiaries, please visit www.aquarionwater.com or www.facebook.com/HinghamWaterFacts.

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