

Newington Sewer Commission 9/21/2022 AMENDED MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 9:06 am.

Present: R.Stern, T.Hazelton, J.O'Reilly, Commissioners. D.Messier, J.Tolman, B.Douglas, H2O Innovations.

Minutes: Motion by J.O'Reilly to approve the August public and non-public minutes, seconded by T.Hazelton. All in favor, approved.

Public Comment: None.

Treasurer's report: Discussion on Operating Fund report, PO #1880-01 - listed as transfer to Town's General Fund. Per RSA 149-1:10 Sewer revenues cannot be co-mingled or deposited into the Town's General Fund. D.Messier contacted T.Adams at the Town Hall to correct. Enterprise Account balance for August was \$1,348,863.15. Operating Fund ending balance for August was \$1,043,896.68.

Manifest Approval: Discussion on shuttle services costs for transporting samples to State Lab in Concord and repairs to WWTP truck. Motion made to approve the 9/21/2022 manifest by J.O'Reilly in the amount of \$82,376.00. Seconded by T.Hazelton. All in favor, approved & signed.

Plant operators report: Flows are down from last year, sludge as billed. Preventative maintenance was performed per manufacturers recommendations and schedules by J.Scotton.

- Aerzen 30hp motor burnt out, replaced in 7 days. Pictures of motor reviewed.
- Replaced plant water tank Level Controller
- Replaced pulleys and shivs on Centrifuge
- Portsmouth Chevrolet replaced starter on the pickup truck, it was towed by Mitchells Towing
- Electrical repair at Contact Tank.

Discussion on plant staffing with H2O Innovations Vice President B.Douglas. Interviews are scheduled, focus is to get the right person in, someone they can fully train if needed, and to not just hire a warm body.

Fire Inspection revealed that the fire extinguishers hadn't been tested or inspected. The Town's vendor was supposed to do it but did not do so. A bee's nest in an emergency light has been removed and an exterior fire extinguisher box cover was repaired.

Buckets have been ordered, D.Messier working on coming up with something less expensive than the dumpster.

Lab work was sent out. Minor PFOS were detected on some samples, non-detectable on other samples.

Security cameras have been installed. They are recorded for 30 days.

Torrington West will be removing the Japanese restaurant. Taking out old grease trap and putting in a new one.

Reviewed email from attorneys Shaines and McEachern that their practice will be merging with Hoefle, Phoenix, Gormley & Roberts.

New Business: Outfall camering and inspection completed. This was Newington's year to schedule and fund. 3 blocked diffusers were discovered, divers thought maybe lobster traps pulled them off. Will be ordered and replaced. Full report will go to EPA and State of NH. This inspection is completed every 2-4 years, alternating between Portsmouth and Newington to fund. Repairs are an 85/15 split. Newington pays only 15%. Outfall is the old DOD outfall. We are only fixing the outfall where we join in. Inspection report will be a book with videos

Discussion on Sig Sauer expansion near the Woodbury Ave roundabout, outfall potentially going into Pease pipe. Newington has line across from there. Brought up at Planning Board meeting to hook up to Newington wastewater instead of piping all way to the Ports Pease plant. Discussion on D.Messier reaching out to engineers to see if they will hook up here.

Plant Manager D.Messier inquired if the Commissioners would need a key to plant and code for front gate, Current protocol is if alarm goes off and D.Messier does not answer, J.Scotton is notified, but he is 30 min away. Commissioners maybe able to respond if needed. Motion by J.O'Reilly to have D.Messier provide keys to the building and the code to the gate to the Commissioners. Seconded by T.Hazelton, all in favor, approved.

Old Business: Budget Meeting with the Selectmen is 10/3 at 6:20 pm. Review of 2023 budget, it is pretty much level funded. Discussion on the Enterprise Fund and if it has a cap. Goal is to have enough in the account to fund an annual budget. The State of New Hampshire requires a reserve in case of catastrophic need. Reviewing previous years budgets, it shows that the Enterprise Fund has been used to offset Sewer Rates. The budget does not show the revenue side well, and septage fees and State Aid grants are not accurately forecasted.

There are many unknowns in the upcoming budget. Land application of sludge is no longer allowed and in may need to be trucked down south. It is possible we will expend the major maintenance line for the current year as we cannot defer any repairs. May need to pull from contingency. The last motor repair was approximately \$7,000. Discussion on the bond payments, the first bond payment for the Forcemain project is in this budget. Bond interest and administrative fees are a separate line from the Bond Principal payment.

Motion by J.O'Reilly to approve 2023 budget of \$1,290,135.00. Seconded by T.Hazelton, all in favor, approved.

Next meeting will be Wednesday October 19, 2022, at 9 am at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Adjournment: 9:54

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Klanchesser