

**Newington Sewer Commission 4/20/2022      APPROVED MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am.

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

**Election of Officers:** Motion by J.O'Reilly to nominate R.Stern as Chairman, seconded by T.Hazelton. All in favor, approved

**Minutes:** Motion by T.Hazelton to approve the February and March minutes, seconded by J.O'Reilly. All in favor, approved.

**Public Comment:** None

**Treasurer's report:** Enterprise Account balance for March was \$1,346,913.03. Operating Fund ending balance for March was \$1,054,742.08. Discussion on past due accounts.

**Manifest Approval:** Motion made to approve the 4/20/2022 manifest by J.O'Reilly in the amount of \$66,760.01. Seconded by T.Hazelton. All in favor, approved & signed.

**Plant operators report:** Flows are up from last year, sludge as billed. Preventative maintenance was performed per manufacturers recommendations and schedules.

D.Messier collated and provided materials to the Town Hall for the audit. Plant water pump was replaced.

Newington will perform the annual video and inspection of outfall diffusers. This annual inspection is a permit requirement, and we alternate annually with Portsmouth. Cost will be around \$5,600. If repairs need to be made the costs will be split 15/85 with Portsmouth paying the larger share.

SCADA system computers were replaced. This expense was approved at a previous meeting.

It was recently discovered that the mechanical actuators and possibly the crash bars on the 2 doors on wet side of the headworks will need to be replaced. They are explosion-proof doors. D.Messier has contacted companies for quotes.

**New Business:** One of the original Sludge feed pumps will need to be replaced. This pump was not replaced during the upgrade, it's almost 20 years old and is beginning to fail. It's a required piece of equipment that the plant cannot run without. Plant staff can install the pump, but it would need to be professionally aligned. It can be up to 16 weeks to receive the pump after it is ordered. Quote from Aqua Solutions reviewed. This would be a SeepEx pump matching the other pumps and the plant has good spare parts on hand.

Motion by J.O'Reilly to expend \$10,927 for a SeepEx pump to replace the sludge feed pump, seconded by T.Hazelton. All in favor, approved.

Sewer use charges were reviewed. To lower the 2021 rate the Commissioners had voted to expend from the Enterprise fund to offset the rate, bringing it down to \$29.77. Without any offsets, the 2022 sewer rate could be \$39.98 per unit (100 cf). Different offset amounts were discussed as were potential revenues. The rate formula was reviewed, and it is the same formula used by other wastewater treatment plants.

Motion by T.Hazelton to set the 2022 Sewer Rate at \$26.86 and further to withdraw up to, but not exceeding, \$300,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund as needed to maintain this rate. Seconded by J.O'Reilly. All in favor, approved.

Motion by J.O'Reilly to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II(a). Roll call vote taken: R.Stern yes, T.Hazelton yes, J.O'Reilly yes. Entered non-public session at 9:30 am

Roll call vote taken at 9:38 to exit non-public session. R.Stern yes, T.Hazelton yes, J.O'Reilly yes.

Motion by J.O'Reilly to draft a letter to H2O Innovations regarding personnel issues. Seconded by T.Hazelton, all in favor, approved.

**Old Business:** none

Next meeting will be Wednesday May 18, 2022, at 9 am at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

**Adjournment:** 9:39 am.

**Sewer Commission Meeting re-opened 9:43 am**

Motion by J.O'Reilly to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II(a). Roll call vote taken: R.Stern yes, T.Hazelton yes, J.O'Reilly yes. Entered non-public session at 9:44 am

Roll call vote taken at 10:32 to exit non-public session. R.Stern yes, T.Hazelton yes, J.O'Reilly yes.

Motion by J.O'Reilly to seal the minutes of the non-public session for 4 years, seconded by T.Hazelton. All in favor, approved.

**Adjournment:** 10:33

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Klanchesser