

Newington Sewer Commission
5/20/15

The Newington Sewer Commission met at the Wastewater Treatment Plant on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 beginning at 9:08am.

Present: Sewer Commission members; Chairman T.Cole, Tim Field, Justin Richardson. Utility Partners; Denis Messier, Steve Bullard. E. Leonard, PE from Wright Pierce joined the meeting at 10am

Minutes: Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Moved by JR, seconded by Tim, minutes approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: J. Richardson asked if the Sewer Treasurer's Reconciliation Report was a balance sheet of what was spent and the account balance. D. Messier confirmed that was correct. Beginning balance of \$190,444.15; end balance \$110,360.71. Discussion on engineering bill of \$81,143.08 from April. Motion by J. Richardson to approve the manifest, seconded by T. Field. All in favor, report approved as presented.

Plant Manger's Report: D. Messier advised flow from April 2014-2015 is about the same. Preventative maintenance is ongoing. Engineering package for preselection for SBR, State of NH has approved it already.

Sewer billing – Mr. Hart still working on it. D. Messier has an appointment at 11am to work it out.

J. Richardson asked if the commission could have an automatic connection fee. Similar to water utilities. Based on size of service connection. D. Messier advised they have a formula and rate is billed on that. J. Richardson didn't want to have a formula that did not account for non-usage since we pay a cost to maintain the lines, this is a tricky issue. For major customers like the mall, the connection fee would be far less than usage, but should we have a minimum monthly fee that covers the maintenance of the system not completely based on usage. D. Messier advised If there is a base rate charge the commission should met with Ed, have a work session on it and get legal involved. J. Richardson asked if it can be based on size of the main? D. Messier would like to see how other plants to this. S. Bullard suggested Ed would know as he has been involved in this before. D. Messier advised Portsmouth Water has a flat rate for a minimal flow and fees are based on usage brackets. We shouldn't ask a homeowner to pay the same as a major business.

June meeting will be with Ed to discuss the bid which closes on June 9th.

There was a break in the forced main from the Paul Brook pumping station – the line between Tyco and Woodbury Ave. Last Monday they searched and found a leak in the system. Waste water did go into the brook, but they did catch the majority of it. D. Messier called 4 companies, only Mac Construction from North Hampton was able to come right away. It took 4 days to repair. During the repair they called Philbrook Septic to pump out the line to minimize flow out of the line. An 8' section of pipe was replaced. Eventually the commission might want have a discussion to plan replacement. This section is 35 years old. Section of pipe from River Road along the new section of Shattuck Way was replaced when Shattuck was built, but not this section. It is pumped and under pressure. D. Messier filled out all state reports that were required due to the leak. Leak believed to be caused by electrolysis on the outside of the pipe.

Two quotes for garage door replacements for 3 doors as part of the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). Only 2 quotes received. Discussion on the \$3,000 difference between the 2 quotes and quality of the doors quoted. Motion by J. Richardson to accept the bid of \$5,950 from Wilson Doors, seconded by T. Field – All in favor, bid awarded to Wilson Doors.

J. Richardson – we got another bill from Wright Pierce – how far along are they? D. Messier advised close to 60% approval. A lot of that charge was for the SBR packet that just went out. J. Richardson asked about an accounting for their hours.

S. Bullard explained the yearly contract adjustment. Price is based on the Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS) index. When the Sewer Commission prepares their budget a projected adjustment is given. Estimate was for a 1.7% increase, BLS is actually -.4%. Per contract the BLS index is used for cost of services provided to the Sewer Commission. The Commission can sign the contract at the lower cost or negotiate. It is a reduction in the contract of approx. \$1700 annually or \$140 a month. Chairman Cole stated he did not believe in going backwards and T. Field agreed. J. Richardson asked if the contract is an annual fee and then an adjustment. If the index keeps going down, we can hold it this year and if it continues to go down will it go down next year? S. Bullard and D. Messier advised yes, it is recalculate every year. Contract covers building & vehicle fuel, chemicals, etc. Discussion ensued on fuel rates, insurance costs and the leaving the contract in place as is. Contract from Utility Partners adjusted to read “Motion to hold CPI with no adjustment for 2015, i.e. \$427,403.28” initialed by the members of the board. Motion made by J. Richardson to approve the amended contract, seconded T. Field, all in favor – motion carried.

E. Leonard from Wright Pierce joined the meeting at 10am.

Issued a SPR preselection package recently, which was reviewed by D. Messier and the EPA. Will make selection on costs and experience from the bids received and assign to GC. If the contract falls apart, we are under no obligation to purchase. Allows to finish the design based on 1 manufacturer and assign to GC. Bids due 6/9, review and recommend by June meeting, or July at the latest. Working on 60% design drawings early next month. 1st week of June. Will submit concurrently to DES. No specs at this early stage, but working on front end, to allow legal and DES review. Documents and 90-100 drawings shown answered J. Richardson’s earlier as to billable hours. J. Richardson asked about next steps and project budget update. We are not in danger of overspending. Project contract has a price cap, may come in under budget, but cannot exceed cap. Overall plan is to pick a manufacturer by June/July, send out to bid in November, review bids over the winter and begin work next spring.

Discussion on how the project will be funded with a bond – through the Commission or through the Selectmen. Revenue bond or General Obligation bond and who would manage and pay the bond. This needs to be worked out between the Commission, Selectmen, Shaines & McEachern and the Bond Bank. J. Richardson made a motion to allow D. Messier to work directly with Shaines & McEachern, seconded by T. Field, all in favor – motion carried.

Ed – pipe. D. Messier would like to take a look at forced main pipe where the leak was. Would like to retain White Pierce to look at pipe and give options.

Ed advised there would be a couple of options. Corroded from the outside, not eroded from the inside. Cemented lining looked good. Discussion on ways to inspect the pipes for leaks or corrosion. J.

Richardson would like to look at the pipes, either CCTV or Smart ball. Ed will come up with proposals and costs. Pipe could be sleeved instead of replaced. This is an existing utility so we could get a wetlands permit to do the work.

Next meeting will be Thursday June 25th at 9am.

Meeting adjourned 10:40 am