



*Town of Walpole
Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

*John Spillane, Chair
John Hasenjaeger, Clerk
Patrick Fasanello, Member
William Abbott, Member
Pradeep Mishra, Member*

Board of Sewer and Water Commissioners

**Monday, July 12, 2021
7:00 P.M.
Meeting Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, July 12, 2021 at Delaney Water Treatment Plant. The meeting is called to order by Board Chair John Spillane at 7:00 p.m.

Present at the Meeting:

Sewer and Water Commissioners:

John Spillane, John Hasenjaeger, William Abbott and Pradeep Mishra
(Absent Patrick Fasanello)

Other Participants:

Scott Gustafson, Acting Water & Sewer Superintendent, Rick Mattson, Director of Public Works and Mary Timilty

Director Mattson announces to the Board that effective today, July 12, 2021 Town Administrator James Johnson has appointment Scott Gustafson as the Acting Sewer and Water Superintendent.

Abatelements

Motion made by Mr. Abbott to approve the abatements ***Seconded*** by Mr. Hasenjaeger
Vote 4-0-0

Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2021 & May 24, 2021

Motion made by Mr. Abbott to approve the minutes of May 10, 2021 with said change. ***Seconded*** by John Hasenjaeger
Vote 3-0-1 (Mishra abstain)

Motion made by Mr. Abbott to approve the minutes of May 24, 2021 with said changes. ***Seconded*** by John Hasenjaeger
Vote 3-0-1
(Mishra abstain)

Superintendents Status Report

Mr. Gustafson updated the Board regarding the wet weather and increase in compliance with the water management policy the demands are somewhat lower than last year. The tanks are at safe levels and ground levels are somewhat higher than last year and discusses history and how that can change. Mr. Gustafson updates that tomorrow they will begin the routine sampling for the phase six for the PFAS compounds and will be following the sample schedule issued by MA DEP. Mr. Gustafson updates that

we are below the MCL for PFAS meaning the water is safe with no need for treatment or any public notification. Further discussion is had regarding the PFAS sampling and questions are answered by Mr. Gustafson from the Board. Mr. Gustafson updates the Department has seen a decrease in water leaks and has given the distribution crew more time to perform required maintenance and work on projects instead of emergency repairs. Mr. Abbott asks what the status is on the Water Withdrawal Permit and if it has gone out for public comment yet. Mr. Mattson comments it was supposed to have gone out after the internal comment period the MA DEP had requested which was more than 30 days ago and they will reach out to the MA DEP for an update. Further discussion is had regarding the process.

Comment Requests #1

Request from Planning Board dated 6/30/2021 re: Paragon Investments, Inc.-130 West Street & 25 Spring Street

Mr. Mattson comments this is the old electrical union building and there are three or four buildings on the lot. It was proposed to tear the buildings down and build a residential/retail condominium complex. Mr. Mattson continues the last he heard the concept is 24 units will be marketed as when a residential unit is purchased and they also purchase a retail condo below and he provides examples. Mr. Mattson feels there is no a lot to comment as far as Sewer and Water and the engineers are going to work with the Town Engineer on this. Mr. Mattson discusses the West Street Bridge occasionally flooding and the improvements to the catch basins that have been made to control.

Motion made by Mr. Abbott ***Seconded*** by Mr. Hasenjaeger to send a note to the Planning Board that at this point the Sewer and Water Commissioners have no comments at this time.

Vote 4-0-0

Comment Requests #2

Request from Planning Board dated 6/30/21 re: Alsarabi Subdivision

Mr. Mattson discusses the previous comments the Board made. This will be a privately owned maintained subdivision and all the utilities, roadways will remain private and will be under a homeowners association.

Motion made by Mr. Abbott ***Seconded*** by Mr. Hasenjaeger that the Board has no additional comment from their June 3, 2021 comments.

Vote 4-0-0

Correspondence #1

Memo from Wright-Pierce re: Hydraulic Modeling Evaluation-Lincoln Estates Development

Mr. Mattson comments this Memo is the results of the hydraulic analysis the Commission requested to be performed of the area on behalf of the town and funded by the developer. Mr. Abbott comments it seems they did not find any particular issues with it and the question was potentially if elevation would slightly change things. Further discussion is had regarding the summarized report. Mr. Mattson asks the Board to accept the report.

Motion made by Mr. Abbott ***Seconded*** by Mr. Spillane to accept the Wright-Pierce Report dated June 14, 2021 for the Lincoln Estates Hydraulic Modeling Evaluation.

Vote 2-0-2 (no vote)

(Mishra and Hasenjaeger abstain)

Correspondence #2

Southwood Hospital email dated 6/30/21

Mr. Mattson summarizes the email and suggests the Commission add this to the next agenda when Commissioner Fasanello is in attendance.

Correspondence #3

Memo from Bill Abbott dated 7/5/21 re: Sewer Master Plan & Expansion of Sewer System

Mr. Abbott suggests to the Board they should adopt the January 2019 Draft Sewer Master Plan that the Board has discussed and did not take the formal action to adopt it as the current Sewer Master Plan. Mr. Abbott summarizes the previous plan was done in 2000 and the new draft maps out sewerage out the rest of the town with very few exceptions. Mr. Abbott continues to summarize the January 2019 Draft Sewer Master Plan. Further discussion is had regarding the plan and the priorities. Mr. Mattson comments that several years ago the Board had sent letters out to homeowners in the Clarkson Drive area with little response as residents were not interested in connecting and further discussion is had. Mr. Abbott suggests the Board put this on the next agenda and he will provide a summary and information from the Board of Health. Mr. Abbott discusses the betterment fees and the percentages covered by the homeowner and the sewer rates. Further discussion is had regarding the draft sewer master plan.

Correspondence #4

Zoning Board of Appeals Case No: 21-7 Septage Facility Hours Decision

Read and noted the extra hour a day was approved.

Discussion Item #1

Water Department Capital Budget Items

Mr. Abbott had some questions on the meter system components and what exactly the request is for. Mr. Mattson answers not knowing what direction we are going in for the metering system and if we stay with Mueller the figures would come down. The amount is based on if they change direction with the metering system using the smart meters. Mr. Mattson suggests after summer vacations to have some other companies come in to give demonstrations. Mr. Mattson provides further comments on the Mueller System and if we are looking at the sophisticated systems we will have to pay. Further discussion is had on metering equipment. Mr. Abbott asks about the Minebrook Well improvements and the tank improvements. Mr. Mattson comments on what improvements are needed. Further discussion is had on the priorities of the Water Capital Budget Items and MWRA options. Discussion is had to make a priority for year one to have an investigation as an alternative water supply and further discussion is had. Mr. Mattson answers Mr. Mishra's questions regarding the Capital Budget items and further discussion is had on the metering system and current vendor Mueller Systems.

Discussion Item #2

Sewer Department Capital Budget Items

The expansion of 1A is discussed and Mr. Abbott suggests we need an extra \$500,000 for the stretch of Main Street which is covered in the Master Plan. Mr. Mattson updates the Board that once the reconstruction of Main Street from the Norwood line is completed, the Town will take ownership of the three miles roadway from the State and Mass DOT will be out of the picture. This is based on an agreement Mr. Boynton made many years ago with the Commonwealth. Mr. Mattson comments once we take ownership we do not want to go back and tear it all up. Further discussion is had on this stretch of roadway and the stretch from the Norwood line to the intersection of Main and Bullard Street needing sewer. Mr. Abbott recommends now is the time to install the sewer during the 1A Construction Project. Further discussion is had regarding the Sewer Master Plan Capital Budget.

Discussion Item #3

Low Income Water Assistance Program Update

Read and noted

Discussion Item #4

Summer Meeting Schedule-Next Potential Meeting Dates-Monday, August 16, 2021

Meeting date scheduled for August 16, 2021

Discussion Item #5

Affirm Rate Hearing votes on out of town sewer rate and third and fourth tier irrigation rates for FY22

Mr. Mattson comments at the last meeting there were two Motions made and seconded. The first Motion was relative to the tier three and four of the irrigation rates to match the out of town residential rates. This was never formally voted on at the last meeting. Mr. Abbott comments the intent on the in-town commercial rate was to match the residential rate. Mr. Abbott suggests the change to the tier 3 rate for commercial instead of \$81.49 to make it \$91.18 and the 4th tier instead of \$94.49 would be \$113.97 and to make the same changes on the out of town commercial to match the out of town residential \$121.47 & \$151.48 in the last two tiers. Mr. Spillane confirms on the residential and commercial rates the 3rd tier will be raised from \$81.49 to \$91.18 and on the 4th tier will be raised from \$94.49 to \$113.97. Mr. Spillane also confirms the irrigation 3rd and 4th tiers will be changed to 3rd tier \$121.47 and 4th tier \$151.48. The out of town commercial 3rd tier will go from \$108.57 to \$121.47 and 4th tier from \$132.78 to \$151.48

Motion made by Mr. Abbott ***Seconded*** by Mr. Hasenjaeger to adopt the rate changes
Vote 4-0-0

Mr. Mattson comment there was Motion and a second on the out of town sewer rate and it was never formally voted. Mr. Abbott updates that what the Board did was increasing the same about as the in town sewer rate and it came out to \$142.34

Motion made by Mr. Abbott ***Seconded*** by Mr. Hasenjaeger for the out of town sewer rate the Board's intent was to go to \$142.34 per 1000 cubic feet
Vote 4-0-0

Motion made by Mr. Abbott to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. ***Seconded*** by Mr. Spillane
Vote 4-0-0

Date Meeting Minutes Accepted: September 13, 2021