

Sewer and Water Minutes

June 13, 2017

Present: Don Schneyer, Peter Socha, Tom Schuler, Tony Campetti, Mike Buffoni, Jennifer Carmichael

Don asked for a motion to approve the May minutes; Tom motioned to accept the May minutes and Peter seconded, all were in favor.

Water tank: 12-inch water main is installed, operational and tied into the existing water system, this was done two weeks ago with the assistance of Wilkinson's digging. All the concrete sealer was sprayed on and painting is to begin on the tank; the roof has been painted. All the electrical connections are done and inspected. The concrete pad is ready and the telemetry will be brought down from the old tank. There will be a fence installed there. The old road will be used in removing the old tanks. There had been signs of beavers at the reservoir but Mike continued to remove their work and they seem to have moved on. Church Street waterline, the contract is all set with the Town and the contractor and Town Council. They were told work was not to start until after Labor Day. Mike expects them to be working a couple months. Two feet drain lines will be put in at the end of Church Street for Tavitian's drainage coming off the hill.

The Pump Station plan/blueprint should come in by the end of this month.

The installation of the Echo Lake fence was to start today. Tensioning post are wood and are put in already, the steel posts go in tomorrow and then the wire goes on. A suggestion was to have a cruiser stop and ticket larger trucks that are ignoring the signs.

Hydrant flushing is in its second week. Mike took Mark out the first four days and then let him go out on his own to do the hydrant flushing so Mike can be at the new tank when work is being done there.

Mike received an email regarding plans and information regarding the Larrywaug Bridge from the center line to the bridge the water mains are encased in concrete. The sewer main is just before the bridge and is only eighteen inches deep and the line goes to 25 feet deep at the four corners.

Mike spoke about water rates, there are only two commitments now, down from four. The work Wilkinson did will come out of the Water Department budget not out of the project. As of May 16th, Mike has \$40,000 left in line items, the operating budget. He will net approximately \$60,000. July 1st Dave Prickett will start rate study, Mike has sent him our current rate and has a list of what is needed for the rate study. Mike explained his surplus has \$300,000 and the budget is \$240,000; technically there is only \$60,000 in surplus. Tony felt the surplus for sewer was also around \$300,000. Mike felt if we raised the water rate 10%. Don felt raising the rates in stages is

much better than jumping 15 or 20 percent. Tony was asked when the sewer loan would be paid off and that will happen in 2025. The water project has an interim loan and SRF will pay once the project is signed off on; then the Abatement Trust gives the Town the amount owed over the next 20 years. Mike recommended raising the rate 10%. Tom felt in funding the infrastructure from their own budget it really falls upon the users, they are bearing the cost not the people who have wells. Tom motioned to increase our water rates for the next fiscal year 10% over the existing current water rate of \$4.18 and 10% on the fixed water rate and Peter seconded, all were in favor. Tony estimates spending \$290,000 of the budget this year, already spent \$260,000 he will probably end up with about \$20,000 left. Tony recommended raising sewer rates 10%. Tom agreed, Peter moved to increase the sewer rate by 10% this is to include the sewer flat rate as well, Tom seconded and all were in favor.

Tony asked about the special town meeting for the Highway garage, Don said it had not been bonded yet. Tony proposed putting a special article on from the Sewer Dept. surplus to do some emergency repair to the pumps that have 15 years on them. Mike there has been water showing up at the intersection of Rte.7 North and Rte. 102 East, testing shows no chlorine; seems to show up when we have a lot of rain; there is algae growing there so no chlorine. Have found no leaks. The fire suppression has been leaking, water is pouring out at 48 Main St. the power has been turned off to the building and Mike thinks this may have caused the valve to open that holds the water in the suppression system, the fire service is not metered and water is being wasted. The building will be auctioned off next month. Chesterwood is set with sewer hookup.

Peter motioned to adjourn and Tom seconded, all were in favor.

Next meeting Tuesday July 11th

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Carmichael, Secretary