



## **TOWN OF RYE SEWER COMMISSION**

**Mailing: 10 Central Road, Rye, NH 03870**

**Physical: 830 Central Road, Rye Beach, NH 03870**

**(603) 964-6815, Fax (603) 964-1516**

### **SEWER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 8:00 A.M.**

**Rye Beach Village District Building**

**830 Central Road, Rye Beach, NH**

**In attendance:** David Kohlhasse, Chairman; David Adams and Peter Kasnet, Commissioners; and Lee Arthur, Administrator.

**Guest:** Robert J. Leyman Jr., 70 Causeway Road.

#### **I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

The Rye Sewer Commission Meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

#### **II. Roll Call**

*Motion was made by David Adams to take under New Business a) 70 Causeway Road, Map 2, Lot 82 out of order. Seconded by Peter Kasnet. Motion carried.*

#### **III. New Business**

##### **a) 70 Causeway Road, Map 2, Lot 82**

Robert Leyman the owner of 70 Causeway Road, Map 2, Lot 82 inquired as to the possibility of connecting to the sewer service. He indicated that the plan is to demo the existing structure and rebuild. It was noted that there is no sewer service on Causeway Road, it is outside the sewer district and that it would be an expansion of the sewer system. David Kohlhasse mentioned that there was a discussion many years ago with the Conservation Commission regarding servicing Causeway Road. The closest sewer service is behind the properties on the north side of Central Road, although the force main is located one property away on Route 1A. It was discussed as to whether the property could connect directly to the force main and what that would involve. It was pointed out that there is a moratorium in place prohibiting any extensions as well as expansions. The expansion process requires a warrant article and vote of the Town. Past warrant articles proposing to expand the sewer service were at no cost to the Town. It was discussed that the Sewer Commissions engineer should be consulted regarding pumping into the force main.

The section in the Sewer Use Ordinance referencing expansions was read. "In order to manage future growth of the public sewer system in a manner that is compatible with both the limited treatment capacity negotiated with the Town of Hampton and the Town of Rye's overall planning, zoning and growth management policies, the public sewer system shall not be expanded beyond the service area shown on Attachment A to this ordinance. No variance to this provision shall be granted without the concurrence of a vote of the Town Meeting. If an expansion of the public sewer system is approved by the Town of Rye, construction plans and specifications

shall be approved by the Town of Hampton prior to construction approval.” The wastewater in Rye is transported to the Town of Hampton as Rye does not have a wastewater treatment facility. Rye’s wastewater is pumped through the Church Road Pump Station.

There is currently a moratorium and it is unknown when it will be lifted. It was noted that in the last couple years other new homes have been built on Causeway Road and they all have septic systems. It was decided that the Sewer Department’s engineer would be contacted to see if it is possible to connect to the force main and to obtain his opinion on the matter. Then it would be up to Robert Leyman to attain a cost estimate and determine the feasibility. Robert Leyman indicated that Ambit Engineering (Paul Dobberstein) is who he is consulting with on the property. It was indicated that the Sewer Commission’s engineer would be consulted, and the Sewer Commission would review his response at their next meeting and then communicate with Robert Leyman.

**IV. O&M Report, October 13, 2020**  
**Consideration of the O&M Report**

The flow summary for Church Road Station in September was 2,317,000 gallons and the rainfall amount was .47 inches. The pump data graphs for Church Road Pump Station, Jenness Beach Pump Station and Abenaqui Pump Station for September were reviewed. The Abenaqui Pump Station graph reflected pump 1 being down on September 18-20, 2020. Mike Dube said that the next step is to pull the pumps and evaluate them. The Rye Water District has a 128-kw portable generator with 250 hours for sale and wanted to know if the Sewer Commission was interested. It was expressed that there was no need.

The culvert in the drive to the Church Road Pump Station has failed and needs to be repaired. Contractors have been contacted to look at it but have not yet responded. Peter Kasnet said that he would look at it.

It was discussed that Chris-Co Construction Services indicated that they need to contact dig safe regarding the Jenness Beach Pump Station line repair but have still not confirmed the project date. The pump station capacity report was discussed, and it was determined to do a further study that would identify the next steps.

***Motion was made by Peter Kasnet to approve the Operations and Maintenance Report as presented. Seconded by David Adams. Motion carried.***

**V. Approval of Minutes**  
**Consideration of Previous Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2020.**

The sewer commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes of September 8, 2020.

***Motion was made by Peter Kasnet to approve the Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2020. Seconded by David Kohlase. David Adams abstained. Motion carried.***

## **VI. Signing of Bills and Correspondence**

### **a) Sewer Department Financial Reports**

Included in the meeting packet were the Financial and Treasurer Report. At the end of September, 54.38% of the budget remained. However, \$51,7865.43 under prior year encumbrances was incorporated into the report. The Treasurer's Report dated October 5, 2020 had a sewer operating fund balance of \$762,304.07 and sewer fund balance of \$582,163.34. David Kohlhasse pointed out that the amount received in interest has dropped significantly since February.

### **b) Bills**

There were no bills to sign.

### **c) Other**

The Warrant for the Collection of Sewer Operations & Maintenance Cost & Capital Cost dated October 8, 2020 indicated that \$176,497.50 in sewer charges was to be collected.

The list of Sewer Charges and Fees Effective October 1- December 31, 2020 were reviewed:

#### **1. Hook-up Fee:**

A. Front Footage Charge	\$260.97/per foot
B. 50 Foot Front (minimum charge)	\$13,048.50
100 Foot Front	\$26,097.00
170 Foot Front (maximum charge)	\$44,364.90

#### **2. O.M.R. (Operating & Maintenance) Charge**

Per Cubic Feet of H2O Consumption .075

## **VII. Old Business**

### **a) 59 West Atlantic, Map 8.4, Lot 22, Update**

Photographs of the reconnection at 59 West Atlantic were reviewed and it was noted that Peter Kasnet inspected the service and requested that the line be insulated.

### **b) 0 Alder Avenue, Map 8.1, Lot 62-1, Update**

It was discussed that at the August 18, 2020 meeting of the Sewer Commission a motion was made to obtain a legal opinion on whether 0 Alder Avenue, Map 8.1, Lot 62-1 can connect to public sewer. A formal opinion has not been received. However, the Sewer Commissions Attorney indicated by phone prior to the meeting that it was clearly an extension. It was discussed that the lot can't connect if it is not a buildable lot and there is currently a moratorium on extensions and expansions.

### **c) 0 Central Road, Map 5.2, Lot 3; 0 McLaughlin Drive, Map 5.2, Lot 26; 0 McLaughlin Drive, Map 5.2, Lot 22, Update**

It was discussed that once the location of the structure is set the property frontage and basis for the fee could be established.

## **VIII. New Business**

### **b) 2021 Budget**

The draft 2021 Budget was reviewed. It was discussed that increases include the salaried position, engineering services, telephone, computer equipment, printing, office supplies, and Hampton transport. The decreases were in the wage and Laf/Ports 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr Bill lines. Once the updated bond schedules are received the budget will be finalized and evaluated overall. It was noted that Rye has one of the lowest sewer rates in the state \$7.50 per 100 cf compared to the City of Portsmouth at \$15.75.

### **c) Staffing**

The salaried position was discussed. David Adams indicated that he is working on the position details and asked if the Sewer Administrator would be interested in the position. It was noted that it would be taken under consideration.

## **IX. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Sewer Commission is scheduled for November 10, 2020.

***Motion was made by Peter Kasnet to adjourn the Sewer Commission Meeting at 9:20 a.m. Seconded by David Adams. Motion carried.***

*\*These are draft minutes. Please refer to the minutes of the next meeting for approvals/corrections.*