



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, February 20, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Rye Beach Village District Building

830 Central Road, Rye Beach, NH

In attendance: David Kohlhase, Chairman; John McCune, Commissioner and Lee Arthur, Sewer Director.

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

II. Announcements

There were no announcements.

III. Public Comment

There were no comments.

IV. Consideration of the O&M Report, February 20, 2024

The flow summary for Church Road Pump Station in January was 7,898,400 gallons, the flow for the same period in 2022 was 2,686,700 gallons. The rainfall for January was 7.42 inches. The irregularities in the pump runtimes at Church Road, Jenness Beach and Abenaqui Pump Station was a result of 1.83 inches of rain fall and tide on January 10, 2024 and 1.66 inches of rain fall and tide on January 13, 2024. In addition, a pump flapper at Jenness Beach Station also got stuck during the month for a short period.

During the storm on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 both pumps at Church Road ran for 28 hours straight and both pumps at Jenness Beach ran for 12 hours straight. Then during the next storm on Saturday, January 13, 2024 both pumps at Church Road ran for 37 hours straight and both pumps at Jenness Beach ran for 19 hours straight. As a result, the last electric bill that covered 01/08/24-02/06/24 for Church Road was \$1,358.37 (38.1% more than the same time last year) and for Jenness Beach Station was \$674.65 (27.8% more than the same time last year). The Sewer Commissioners reviewed video of the storm.

The Sewer Commissioners reviewed photographs of the capping at 65 Big Rock Road, Parcel ID 052-059 and the pressure test and inspection at 89 Cable Road, Parcel ID 081-032.

The shield for the propane tanks at Abenaqui Pump Station was removed so the tanks could be serviced. The tanks were serviced, and the tech indicated that they are good for the next five years. A

new removable shield is being explored. The Church Road Pump Station generator replacement was discussed. The next step is to draft the Request for Proposal.

*Motion was made by John McCune to approve the O&M Report of February 20, 2024.
Seconded by David Kohlase. Motion carried.*

V. Approval of Minutes

Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2024

The Sewer Commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes of January 9, 2024.

Motion was made by John McCune to approve the Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2024. Seconded by David Kohlase. Motion carried.

VI. Signing of Bills and Correspondence

a) Sewer Department Financial Reports

At the end of December 2023, \$407,291.95 plus \$47,159.74 of prior years' expenditures had been expended, \$65,515.79, 15.39% of the budget remained. The Town of Hampton 4th Quarter Bill was just received and was for \$38,114.45 as well as the City of Portsmouth's 4th Quarter Bill for \$3,411.96. These funds were encumbered.

At the end of January 2024, \$10,778.02 had been expended. The current year's budget was not on the report as it is not entered into the finance program until it is approved.

b) Signing of Bills

The Sewer Commissioners signed the Warrant for the Collection of Sewer Operations and Maintenance Cost Adams Mobile Home Park.

c) Warrant for the Collection of Sewer Operations & Maintenance Cost Adams Mobile Home Park, February 20, 2024

The Warrant for the Collection of Sewer Operations and Maintenance Cost Adams Mobile Home Park was for \$10,844.93.

d) Sewer Annual Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

The Sewer Commissioners reviewed the 2023 Sewer Annual Report.

e) Town of Rye March Newsletter Sewer Article

The Sewer Commissioners reviewed the sewer article submitted for the Town off Rye March Newsletter.

VII. Old Business

a) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant to complete a sewer infrastructure vulnerability assessment update.

It was noted that a Public Hearing was held Thursday, January 18, 2024 to hear public comment on the acceptance and expenditure of the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant to complete a sewer infrastructure vulnerability assessment. The total expenditure for the project \$74,000.00. The Federal portion is \$55,000.00 and local cost share is \$18,500.00 of which will be satisfied through the sewer budget that is supported by user fees.

The January 18, 2024 Select Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. It was noted that the Grant Agreement was signed by Matthew Scruton, Town Administrator and all required documents have been submitted to The New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM).

VIII. New Business

a) New U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Requirements

It was discussed that the Sewer Commission was notified on January 29, 2024 that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring communities to develop major storm and flood event adaptation plans as part of the upcoming National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting process. The BRIC Grant scope of service for the sewer vulnerability assessment should satisfy the mandatory requirement. This is extremely fortunate as otherwise the sewer users would have had to bear 100% of the cost.

The EPA Creating Resilient Water Utilities initiative and EPA Region 1 is providing a series of free webinars for wastewater utility owners and operators in New Hampshire that have been and/or will be issued NPDES permits that contain new major storm and flood event adaptation planning requirements. Lee Arthur, Sewer Director has registered for the six two-hour sessions being held in March.

IX. Adjournment

The next meeting of the Sewer Commission was tentatively scheduled for March 12, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

Motion was made by John McCune to adjourn the Sewer Commission Meeting at 8:50 a.m. Seconded by David Kohlase. Motion carried.

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