



TOWN OF RYE SEWER COMMISSION

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SEWER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 9, 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 8:00 a.m.

II. Announcements

There were no announcements.

III. Public Comment

There were no comments.

IV. Consideration of the O&M Report, April 9, 2024

The flow summary for Church Road Pump Station in March was 6,691,700 gallons, the flow for the same period in 2023 was 4,449,100 gallons. The rainfall for March was 11.58 inches, the rainfall for the same period in 2023 was 3.61 inches. There were no irregularities in the pump runtimes. Lee Arthur has completed all 6 sessions of the EPA's Climate Resilience Training for Wastewater Utilities.

The Church Road Pump Station generator replacement was discussed. The commissioners indicated that they are interested in a 50KW and that the replacement of the propane tank should also be explored. Lee Arthur indicated that a septic hauler was inquiring about the use of enzyme additives in grease interceptors. She pointed out that she had a discussion with Mike Dube, Town of Hampton WWTP Operations Manager and they are not recommended because grease would accumulate downstream and not captured on site. The Sewer Use Ordinance was referenced "In maintaining the grease trap the owner(s) shall be responsible for the proper removal and disposal by appropriate means of the *captured* materials". Jason Rucker, Public Works Director reached out indicating the need to rebuild a manhole structure at the end of Perkins Road where it meets Route 1A because Perkins Road is scheduled to be paved this spring. Lee Arthur met with the contractor and they are in the process of evaluating if other structures need to be rebuilt. Mike Dube and Toby Spainhower, Town of Hampton Sewer and Drain Forman will be taking a look at the sewer system in the vicinity of the Jenness Beach Pump Station because of increased inflow/infiltration. The stormy/wetter weather has impacted the WWTP significantly. Saint Anselm College Center for Ethics in Society is updating the New Hampshire Zoning Atlas and has requested the GIS layer of Rye's sewer infrastructure. The NHDES Water Division has reached out in support of their request for information. The information has been forwarded.

Motion was made by John McCune to approve the O&M Report of April 9, 2024. Seconded by David Kohlhase. Motion carried.

V. Approval of Minutes

Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2024

The Sewer Commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes of March 12, 2024.

Motion was made by John McCune to approve the Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2024. Seconded by David Kohlhase. Motion carried.

VI. Signing of Bills and Correspondence

a) Sewer Department Financial Reports

At the end of March 2024, \$87,548.89 had been expended of which \$41,526.41 was encumbrances. The current year's budget has not been entered into the finance program as it was the budget was just approved.

b) Signing of Bills

There were no bills to sign.

c) Warrant for the Collection of Sewer Operation and Maintenance Cost

The warrant for the collection of sewer operation and maintenance cost (billing) that covers usage from January 1 – March 31, 2024 was in the amount of \$68,387.50.

d) NH Department of Transportation Community Informational Meeting Notice

The NH Department of Transportation is hosting a Community Informational Meeting on April 15, 2024, 6:30 p.m. at Rye Junior High School. To address questions and concerns about the seawalls on Route 1A. Discussion topics will include: The impact of rising sea levels and storm surges; the DOT's plan for maintaining the seawalls and addressing future deterioration; and the 10-year plan to remediate the Route 1A seawalls. All Rye residents are invited to attend. It was noted that the strength of the seawalls along Route 1A are imperative in protecting Rye's sewer infrastructure. Lee Arthur indicated that she plans on attending the meeting.

e) NHDES Water Infrastructure Funding Workshop

The NHDES will be hosting a Water Infrastructure Funding Workshop from April 9-12, 2024. The online workshop will include a series of virtual sessions focusing on updates regarding funding programs administered by NHDES, asset management and more. Lee Arthur indicated that she has registered for the following sessions: Welcome and Introduction including CWSRF Program Updates; Asset Management for Drinking Water, Wastewater and Stormwater; Clean Water – Stormwater and Wastewater Preparing for the 2024 Preapplication Process; Clean Water Disbursement Request Process.

f) Rye Emergency Management Letter of Support for the Town of Hampton I/I Reduction Project

The Town of Rye Emergency Management Director wrote a letter in support of the Town of Hampton's I/I Reduction Project as requested by the Town of Hampton Emergency Management. The letter was in support of their efforts to acquire funding to improve coastal resiliency by replacing deteriorated sewer infrastructure that is currently penetrated with I/I from flood waters

and groundwater in the Hampton Beach Area. It was noted that this would help address capacity issues at the WWTP where Rye sends its wastewater.

VII. Old Business

a) 21 Vin Mar Court, Parcel ID 084-034

E-mail correspondence was received from Monica Kieser of Hoefle, Phoenix, Gormley and Roberts, PLLC representing John St. Cyr of 21 Vin Mar Court. She indicated that as she understood from the June 8, 2021, Sewer Commission Meeting each owner has rights to the portion of the paper street abutting their property so they needed to draft an easement between the owner of 18 Vin Mar Court and 21 Vin Mar Court that each party would have access over the portion of the paper street abutting 18 and 21 Vin Mar Court. She indicated that she has drafted a reciprocal easement of which the owner of 18 Vin Mar Court has reviewed. The draft easement, past minutes and revoked subdivision plan accompanied the correspondence.

It was noted that at the June 8, 2021 Sewer Commission Meeting correspondence from John St. Cyr of 21 Vin Mar Court was addressed. It was indicated that he wanted to explore the feasibility of connecting a proposed second home on his lot. Monica Kieser was present at that meeting and mentioned that they are applying to the ZBA and wanted to be able to indicate that they were getting the process started with the Sewer Commission as there is much relief that needed to be granted by the ZBA. She presented a plan showing the proposed new dwelling and indicated that they would like to explore connecting to the sewer main in Vin Mar Court. There was a discussion as to whether the manhole was in the paper street portion of Vin Mar Court and if that portion of the paper street was owned by another lot. It was decided at that time that the location of the manhole needed to be confirmed. Monica Kieser was provided with a copy of the basic hook-up conditions at that meeting and it was left that once the manhole location was confirmed they would present their findings to the Sewer Commission.

She indicated in her recent correspondence that the owner will be dealing with other aspects of the application and that her piece is the easement. It was discussed having Town Counsel review the proposed easement.

VIII. New Business

There was no new business.

IX. Adjournment

The next meeting of the Sewer Commission was tentatively scheduled for May 14, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

Motion was made by John McCune to adjourn the Sewer Commission Meeting at 8:48 a.m. Seconded by David Kohlase. Motion carried.

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