

## Draft Minutes

### Exeter Water & Sewer Advisory Committee

April 9, 2014

#### Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Bob Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices building. Other members present were Boyd Allen, Jim Tanis, and BOS Rep Nancy Belanger. Vice Chairman Gene Lambert, John Gilbert, and Paul Scafidi were absent.

#### 1. Review and approve draft Minutes of 3/12/14 meeting

Mr. Allen had one amendment, just asking to make sure his name was spelled “Boyd Allen” and not “Allen Boyd or Mr. Boyd” in any places.

A Motion was made by Mr. Allen and seconded by Mr. Tanis to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried – all in favor with one abstention from Selectwoman Belanger.

#### 2. Water/Sewer Bill Abatement Requests and/or discussions with customers

No abatement requests.

#### 3. Regular Business

##### **a. Projects Update: Mike Jeffers**

Mr. Jeffers was not at the meeting, but he had previously distributed a report to Chairman Kelly. There was a discussion on CSO events. He said there have been a couple reportable events. They have been noted to the EPA and they have not heard back on them.

Chairman Kelly also reported the new vector truck has arrived.

Finally, Chairman Kelly reported the Groundwater Treatment Plant contract and water main have been let out. The low bidder was approved by the Board of Selectmen.

##### **b. Financial Reports**

Chairman Kelly talked about adjusting the accounts receivable description to take out the large receivable that is being discussed by the Selectmen.

He went on to say the cash flow has been decent over the last year.

#### **4. Old Business**

##### **a. Impact Fees and Rate Analysis**

Over the last couple months, Chairman Kelly agreed that rates are currently sufficient. He said looking at impact fees is worthwhile since they have not been looked at for 15 years. He has found that since 2007 to the last time the rates were tweaked (2010), the water rates have risen approximately 20% about 4.75 thousand gallons per day to 5.34 thousand gallons per day. On the sewer end, since 2007 rates have risen from approximately 2.52 thousand gallons per day to 4.44 thousand gallons per day. This is an approximate 26% increase or 4% per year.

Regarding the RFQ draft, comments have been made and those have been finalized. Mr. Dean thought calling the Massachusetts consultants was worthwhile. The RFP will get on the streets in a couple weeks. Mr. Tanis still thinks there is a case to be made for a rate reduction. He suggested bringing in an independent consultant to review it so it can go down. Chairman Kelly agreed, saying they have not had a third party look at the rates since the 90's. He went on to talk about the consultant in Massachusetts that he thinks they will get some good stuff from.

Brian Griset spoke, asking about the impact fees. Chairman Kelly said there would be a full impact fee analysis, and also a rate study in addition. The impact fees are the main focus and most important.

#### **5. Other Business to be brought before the Committee**

Chairman Kelly reported the Boyd Allen is stepping down to spend more time on the Exeter Housing Authority. Also, he reported that Nancy Belanger was the BOS rep on the Water/Sewer Committee.

Dave Michelson sent in a letter of interest last fall to be on the Water/Sewer Committee. He worked for Kleinfelder. He has agreed to be on the Committee in place of Mr. Allen.

#### **6. Committee Calendar**

The next regular meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 6:30 pm in the Nowak Room at the Town Office.

Chairman Kelly adjourned the meeting at 6:57 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Nicole McCormack  
Recording Secretary

