

Exeter (NH) Water & Sewer Advisory Committee

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2016

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 David Michelsen, Jim Tanis, and Selectboard representative, Nancy Belanger.

1. Approve meeting minutes

Mr. Kelly presented the draft March 9, 2016 meeting minutes for review. Mr. Michelsen moved and Ms. Belanger seconded a motion to approve the March minutes as written. The minutes were approved 3-0 with Jim Tanis abstaining.

2. Abatements

There were no abatement requests for this meeting.

3. Regular Business

a. Projects Update

According to Mike Jeffers, the Wastewater Treatment Plant design is at approximately 60% complete with on-going discussions with our consultant, Wright Pierce, about how to maximize the Value Engineering recommendations without sacrificing function and future expansion capabilities.

Regarding the disinfection byproducts issue in our water supply, Mr. Jeffers noted that the consultants had just come on board to review this. A more full understanding and report on the progress will be presented in either the July or September meetings.

The new water rates that the Committee recommended at the end of 2015 went into effect on April 1 for all three districts. The water rate consultant, Municipal Financial Services Group, is expected to have draft model information sometime over the summer. It was recommended that a joint BOS/W&S meeting for that presentation of data be conducted when appropriate.

b. Financial Reports

March 2016 unaudited financial reports were previously distributed to the committee via email from Laura Zogopolous of the Finance Department. General discussion ensued on the reports. Note was made that the fund balances have continued a downward slope begun in late summer 2015 due to projected revenues for 2015 slightly behind budgeted expenses.

Expenses due to project debt service and added testing requirements also increased dramatically over the past two years.

No significant questions were posed.

c. Other or On-Going Business

- i. Sewer Deduct Meters. The Committee was requested by DPW to assess this issue which has been raised several times by residents over the years. This will be put on a future agenda or conducted in a workshop format.
- ii. Stratham Water Tie in. Discussions have been conducted by the Selectboard about the maximum daily allowance as presented in the draft agreement with Stratham. Currently, it was anticipated that the maximum daily flow would be 125,000 gallons per day (gpd). There have been suggestions by others that there be a floating cap or a surge factor depending on the time of year. The Committee had a consensus that the originally suggested flow rate BY STRATHAM of 125,000 gpd be the criteria for sale of water at this time.
- iii. Stratham Sewer Services Agreement. Mr. Kelly noted that after the Water Services Agreement was finalized, the next order of business would be to discuss and frame a Sewer Services Agreement with the Town of Stratham. He noted this would probably be in a draft form by our July meeting.
- iv. Search for New Members. Paul Scafidi and John Gilbert have resigned from the Committee for personal reasons. The Water and Sewer Committee is currently looking for two new members to fill out its five person advisory committee.

4. Committee Calendar

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the Nowak Room at the Town Offices. Mr. Kelly adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Robert Kelly
Recording Secretary pro tem