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TOWN OF KINGSTON
Office of the Sewer Commission/Wastewater
Department 26 Evergreen Street
Kingston, MA 02364

Elaine A. Fiore Chair
William E. Watson, Vice Chair
Brian M. Donahue

Minutes
September 19, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Sewer Commissioners was held in room 203. Members in attendance were Commissioners: Elaine Fiore, William Watson, Brian Donahue, Superintendent Dave Walsh and Jeanne Dunn.

Ms. Fiore call the meeting to order at **4:30PM**

MEETING MINUTES

Upon a MOTION made by Ms. Fiore and SECONDED by Mr. Watson, it was VOTED 2-0-1 to accept the meeting minutes of 09/05/2023.

1. Commitments

Abatement 65-69 Summer St.

Upon a MOTION made by Ms. Fiore, Mr. Watson and by Mr. Donahue, it was VOTED all in favor to amend bill by 79,750 from total consumption of 108,000.

2. Plant Upgrade

Superintendent Walsh stated it has been hectic the last few weeks. This week Tank 4 was drained and cleaned. Methuen came in to fix the manifold. SSI personnel came out to flush the lateral lines and flushed the main with fire hose's using plant water. The manifold repair is under warranty and replacement parts will be sent to the plant.

Superintendent Walsh stated he reached out to Waterworth, a company that provides information on costs to run the plant and what the end user should be paying for rates. He stated with a yearly subscription real time costs would be available. He will set up a Presentation for the Board. This will take place on 10/3/23 430pm-5 pm.

Plan to move the trailers located at the plant within the next four weeks.

The monitoring wells for the transfer station leaching fields were completed and are in good shape.

Brian M. Donahoe



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3. Davis Property

Ms. Fiore mentioned there is an article for the October Town Meeting for the leaching fields.

The discussion revolved around pursuing funding for leaching fields for 3 tanks or 4 tanks. The State Revolving Fund would provide a low interest loan for the project. It was discussed with the age of the existing leaching fields we are running the risk of failure. There are signs of some hydraulic slow down. If the current leaching fields fail, there is no place for the discharge to go. There will be unintended consequences. Everything is queued up and ready to go, the last step is the funding. It was discussed to seek funding for 4 tanks and include connecting Town & Country to the municipal sewer system as an option. Growth in Town should be managed by the appropriate Boards and Committees that provide permits and not by the lack of sewer or septic systems.

Mr. Donohue will work on compiling information for customer outreach on the need for the leaching fields. Outreach may include a public meeting and or a mailing to the sewer customers. In the past we received funding from the MassWorks grants and the SRF loan. We have exhausted all avenues available to us. It was discussed without any development in Town the cost of the leaching fields will be on the rate payers.

Superintendent Walsh is looking into the permits and DEP requirements. Discussed splitting the discharge between Indian Pond and Davis property. Need to monitor the wells prior to discharge and seek more clarity from the DEP. The intention is to test the three tanks for two weeks and go back to two tanks until 80% capacity.

Article was submitted by Ms. Fiore raising the project from 12 million to 13 million due to inflation. Will put this on the agenda 10/10/23 for the Selectmen Meeting/ Finance.

4. Superintendent / Chief Operator Position Evaluation

Ms. Fiore will work with Superintendent Walsh to put together a document for the Commissioner's to review.

Upon a MOTION made by Mr. Watson and SECONDED by Mr. Donohue, it was unanimously VOTED to approve Amendment 3.

5. Update from the Superintendent

Superintendent Walsh stated the loading dock area received approval from the Highway department. The work will be starting 10/12/23.

Staff



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Adjourn: Upon a MOTION made by Mr. Watson and SECONDED by Mr. Donohue, it was unanimously VOTED to adjourn at 5:30PM.