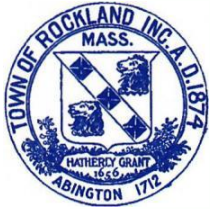


Town of Rockland SEWER COMMISSION



Post Office Box 330
MASSACHUSETTS 02370

Charles Heshion, *Commissioner*
Daniel E. Duross, *Commissioner*
Sherri Vallie, *Commissioner*

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Rockland Sewer Commissioners Meeting
587 R Summer St., Rockland, Ma.
Meeting held via Zoom
Recorded for Public Playback on WRPS
(local cable access tv)
www.wrpsrockland.com

February 8, 2023

In Attendance: Chuck Heshion, Sherri Vallie, Dan Duross, Rick Kotuch

Introductory Remarks

This is a working session for the sewer commissioners. The public is welcome to attend. There may be votes at this session. There will be no public comment except for the parties listed on the agenda. It is being recorded for playback later on WRPS.

Motion made by Dan Duross, 2nd by Sherri Vallie, to begin the meeting at 6:30 PM, February 8, 2023, 2022 All in favor 3-0.

Continuation of old business

Upgrade Narrative for treatment plant

Core team includes: Matt Johnson (Veolia), Kevin Olson (Wright Pierce), Steven Pierce (Wright Pierce chief engineer), Steve Halloway (VP Wright Pierce), Rick Kotuch (Veolia plant manager), Chuck Heshion (Sewer Commissioner), Jess Richards (Wright Pierce financial analyst)

Scope of work will be ready February 16 for review and editing. When core group approves, commissioners will review and approve, then town counsel will review. Presentation will be given to the board of selectmen on March 7 to discuss \$2.5 million (\$1 million ARPA and \$1.5 Million Bond). Service agreement will be in two parts: Part 1 will be field work including site survey for an entire facility upgrade. \$155,000 for phosphorus engineering Part 2 will be design bid scope etc.

Generator discussion resulted in decision for fixed generator. Bid proposal and spec being created by Veolia and will be ready by next week for review by town counsel and town electrical engineer.

Digester Boiler situation with non-compliant piping (methane pipes) causing shut down has been put on hold for six months. There are two outstanding invoices totaling \$100,00 and \$13,250 for fuel which was not budgeted. Atty Kenny was given the contract and the terms all favored the vendor. Payment has been authorized for the \$100,000 to avoid breach of contract. Email has been sent to Hallum and Wilkinson stating the \$13,500 should be split as good faith. Response not expected until February 13.

Digester will now be paid in full. Asst Town Admin will see if fuel oil can be included in ARPA funds as project override.

Digester Piping scope and design is complete. Weston Sampson will be surveying site tomorrow for bid spec. Ms. Vallie will attend as an observer.

Beech Street sewer manhole thought to be from high water but it is sewer responsibility. French drain to be installed around the manhole. Highway department sanded the area over the weekend. Temporary repairs completed by Dan Del with permanent repairs scheduled for the spring.

Dynavac visit yesterday, manholes were covered when their parking lot was paved. The company will fix by June 30 at their expense. A letter was sent explaining 2 manholes covered and a third is visible but needs a collar.

Roto Rooter handles emergency repairs for residences. Not all drainlayers are licensed in the Town of Rockland. Mr. Heshion offered a list of licensed drainlayers. General manager suggested he get a license.

Ordinance addition to clarify ambiguities around new connections has been provided for future discussion. Atty Kenny opined there is no prohibition to the sewer department charging municipal for sewer services on municipal buildings. There will be future discussion.

CAPITAL PLAN & Warrant Articles

Ms. Vallie shared screen to display capital planning forms. Town Accountant said very very roughly \$210,000 available to fund requests based on 2022 retained earnings. Previous projection of \$130,000 will be retained earnings for 2023 (this year) to fund next year articles.

- \$25,000 injector pump repairs- to be added to remaining funds from article 22-40

- \$100,000 Spruce St repair and rehabilitate

- \$100,000 Digester Boiler piping-not all of the cost is covered by ARPA, funding source of excess cost is unclear, commingle with ARPA requires town meeting vote (full cost will be \$350,00)

- \$150,000 Generator – BOS had given \$200,000 from ARPA funds, this may be sufficient

- \$125,000 Annual I&I Control plan – funding is included in operating budget, cost may be lower, this should be included in fee review, maybe town funded in lieu of municipal sewer charges

- \$75- 80 million -next year FY a request will be made for \$10-\$12 million to begin construction -

Funding sources are still being determined but the requests will be submitted so appropriate departments are aware of needs.

Changes to Ordinance will be discussed at meeting with town admin and atty Galvin on Tuesday. Additional items should be included in the changes but Ms. Vallie would like to discuss further regarding specifying fees. She feels any reference to a fee should direct back to the fee schedule. Ordinance should include definitions only.

Monthly meeting scheduled for Feb 16 has been moved to February 23

Agenda items reviewed. Working session moved to Feb 16 evening on Zoom. Note that Zoom meetings may be disallowed after March due to Covid rules being retired.

Fees discussion tabled to another meeting.

Executive Discussion pending review of open meeting laws. Atty Kenny will be consulted.

Veolia project manager invoice submitted. Bulk of work due to generator.

Motion made by Dan Duross, 2nd by Sherri Vallie, to adjourn at 7:20 PM All in favor 3-0.

Documents to be included:

None

Next monthly meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2023

Next working session meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2023