



TOWN OF HUDSON

Municipal Utility Committee



David Shaw, Chairman David Morin, Selectmen Liaison

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Hudson Municipal Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: September 19, 2017

Attendees:

David Shaw, Chairman
Bill Abbott, Vice Chairman
Jeff Rider
Chelsea Leonard
Dave Morin, Selectman's Liaison
Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer
Donna Staffier-Sommers, Administrative Aide

The monthly meeting of the Town of Hudson Municipal Utility Committee was held Tuesday, September 19, 2017, at 7:00 pm, in the Town of Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting room at Town Hall. Secretarial duties were provided by Donna Staffier-Sommers.

1. Acceptance of minutes

The minutes of the August 15, 2017 Municipal Utility Committee meeting were read. A motion was made by Jeff Rider; second by Bill Abbott to "accept the meeting minutes for meeting dated August 15, 2017, as written." Motion carried.

3. Financial Status – Water Utility

A – C. The Cash Flow report for July 2017 and the Expenditure and Revenue reports for August 2017 were reviewed with minor questions.

D. The Pennichuck Operation reports for July and August 2017 were reviewed. Elvis spoke of the desire to plan now for an additional water source. The Merrimack River is being considered and the Town owns land adjacent to it. Building a water treatment facility would cost in the 10 – 15 million dollar range and would give us a total of 3 ½ million gallons of water a day including the yield of our wells. We buy some of our water from Pennichuck and their rates keep going up. This

might be an incentive to start planning since a project like this will take many years to complete.

4. Old Business- Water Utility -None

5. New Business – Water Utility

A. Water Utility FY19 Preliminary budget review

Elvis spoke of some of the larger items to be part of this budget or a separate warrant article:

- Install a surge valve at Sullivan Rd near the Pelham border. Since Pennichuck has been expanding the water line into Pelham, it is taxing the Windham Rd pump station and causing low water pressure, at times, for some of our customers. The valve would measure the pressure and keep Hudson's water pressure at a level needed for our customers. He is budgeting \$150,000 for this item.
- Standby generator to cover the Dame/Ducharme wells. Budgeting \$100,000. Similar to the one at the Weinstein well.
- Gordon Street water tank – this is a long standing project that has been reviewed with some solutions and band aid options. The preferred method is to replace the steel tank with a concrete tank at approximately \$1.65 million. This would not impact the rate payers because the funds would come from the capital reserve fund used for this purpose. But because of the high cost, a separate warrant article will need the approval of the voters to expend the funds.

B. Hilltop Self Storage 22 Brady Drive - 8" water main extension Map 105 Lot 17.

204 linear feet of an 8 inch water main was installed along Brady Drive. This would give water access to Map 105 Lots 17, 18, 19 & 20. All tests have been done and an easement deed and hold harmless agreement have been recorded. Acceptance is recommended by both the Town Engineer and the Road Agent.

Jeff Rider made motion; seconded by Bill Abbott "to recommend the Board of Selectmen accept the water line extension on Brady Drive servicing Map 105 lots 17, 18, 19 & 20". Motion carried with Chelsea Leonard abstaining.

6. Financial Status – Sewer Utility

- A. The cash flow report for July 2017 and the Expenditure and Revenue reports for August 2017 were reviewed with minimal discussion.
- B. The balance of capacity is at 69,500 gpd.

7. Old Business – Sewer Utility - None

8. New Business – Sewer Utility

- A. Abatement-S-BET-18-01-Town/Otarnic Pond Co-Op 1 Otter Way M/L 175/034

The applicant requests an abatement of sewer betterment charges on the basis of a revision made to the existing payment schedule after a state grant payment was received. Request abatement of the difference of the old and new billing in the amount of \$89.25. ($\$6901.25 - \$6812.00 = \89.25).

Motion made by Bill Abbott; seconded by Chelsea Leonard “to recommend the Board of Selectmen approve abatement request S-BET-18-01 in the amount of \$89.25 for the reason given”. Motion carried.

- B. Sewer Utility FY19 Preliminary budget review

Elvis spoke of some of the larger items that Jess Forrence will be including in the sewer budget or as a warrant article:

- Sagamore pump station upgrade. As was the Industrial Drive station, this station is older and many parts are becoming obsolete. Budgeting \$350,000.
- Replacement of the robotic camera and equipment. The existing one is 10 years old and technology has improved. Jess researched to get the best value for the money and will be budgeting \$80,000 to cover it.
- Replacement of the Melendy Road old culvert and dam near the bridge. The guys are frequently cleaning it out. Because this repair is beyond their comfort level and without enough time to do it, the job will be subbed out. Planning to budget \$150,000.

Donna went over some of the 5561 sewer line items with plans to slightly reduce some line item requests.

We were unable to schedule a meeting with the City of Nashua to review the expenses and anticipated projects of the Nashua Wastewater Treatment Plant prior to tonight's meeting but we did receive a sheet listing the FY 19 anticipated projects and what our 12.58% share of those expenses will be.

Donna provided the Committee with the explanation sheets given to us last year. All projects shown are being carried over into the new budget. The projected costs are quite a bit over what they anticipated last year. The capital equipment replacements are \$1,000,000 over what was thought they would be last year and the facility improvements are \$700,000 over what was thought last year. Our share is anticipated to be \$566,239.

The Committee is scheduled to meet with City of Nashua officials on October 11 to go over the projects and get a better understanding of their plans so we can budget for them accordingly.

9. Informational

- A. Bill Abbott provided the Committee with a 12 month profit and loss statement for both water and sewer.

10. Remarks by Selectman, members and staff

- Selectman Morin informed the Committee of some changes being made as to how Hudson will present its budget to the voters. House Bill 251 requires us to request funding for all capital reserve accounts by separate warrant article instead of through a designated line within the department budget, as it has been done in the past.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm by Jeff Rider; seconded by Bill Abbott.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2017 at 7pm.

Donna Staffier-Sommers
Sewer Utility Administrative Aide

