



TOWN OF HUDSON

Municipal Utility Committee

Jeff Rider, Chairman

Nancy Brucker, Selectmen Liaison



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Hudson Municipal Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: February 18, 2015

Attendees:

Jeff Rider, Chairman

Bill Abbott, Vice Chairman

Robert Russell

Bernie Manor

David Shaw

Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer

Donna Staffier-Sommers, Sewer Utility Administrative Aide

Absent:

Nancy Brucker, Selectman's Liaison

Valerie Marquez, Water Utility Clerk

Guests:

Tony Basso of Keach-Nordstrom

Jeff McClure of Weston & Sampson

The monthly meeting of the Town of Hudson Municipal Utility Committee was held Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 5:00 pm, in the Board of Selectmen meeting room of the Town of Hudson at Town Hall. Secretarial duties were provided by Donna Staffier-Sommers.

Item 6B- Bockes Rd. / Sullivan Rd. water main extension was taken out of order and Tony Basso of Keach Nordstrom was recognized by the Committee as representative for the developer.

Tony explained that the Town will be benefitting by this water main extension installed by the developer at a cost of around \$600,000. It will be a mile long and run from the meter pit in Pelham down Sullivan Road, across Route 111 to Bockes Road. The developer is requesting consideration to waive the \$5425 water access fee for each of his 17 lots for a total of \$92,225.

He went on to say that this water line would give water access and fire service to many other lots; a significant benefit to the Town. The developer would also forgo his share of fees from those connecting into this line for the next five years and allow to Town to keep those fees.

Elvis asked if they considered using cisterns and Tony replied that water service is better for fire service. This has been approved by the Planning Board.

A motion was made by Bob Russell “to recommend the Board of Selectmen waive the total water assessment fee of \$92,225 for the 17 lot subdivision”. Bill Abbott seconded for discussion.

Bill and Bernie were not comfortable with waiving the fee. Jeff feels that this is a good deal for the Town. The Town would receive 5,000 feet of water line and all other connection fees and would be closer to completing some of the loops. There are potentially 35 lots that would be required to pay a fee to connect in and that money would all go to the Town.

A motion was made by Bob Russell “to recommend the Board of Selectmen waive the water assessment fees for this development only, in the amount of \$92,225 with all other fees to come to the Town.” Bill Abbott seconded. The motion carried.

Item 6C –Master Plan update was taken out of order and the Committee recognized Jeff McClure of Weston & Sampson. Jeff was invited by the Committee to review the updating of the Water Utility Master Plan.

Chairman Jeff Rider explained that Hudson has an outdated Master Plan. We have some of the lowest water rates in the State and funds are needed to support capital improvements. We are looking for recommendations of improvements, a time frame and how we can fund them.

Jeff McClure was one who helped put together the old 2002 Master Plan and the minor update made in 2010. He reviewed the concept of putting together a master plan with the Committee. The existing infrastructure would have to be reviewed. The Town has a Civil 3D CAD system but still needs to incorporate it into GIS. The three items to be looked at would be the Master Plan, Asset Management and leak detection.

Elvis left the meeting at 5:46pm.

Bernie stated that he would like to see an update on the Master Plan with the associated costs so we can get moving on it.

Bernie Manor made motion; seconded by Jeff Rider “to recommend to the Selectmen that Weston and Sampson prepare a proposal to update the Master Plan with current cost figures and to prepare a separate proposal for an Asset Management Plan.” Motion carried.

Jeff McClure continued on to update the Committee on the status of the Weinstein well. The design has been approved and we are ready to drill. It is estimated to take about 2 ½ months for drilling, and a 40 hour pump test (1 week prep) for completion. Funding is still needed for the third phase to make it usable and to close the old well.

The Committee thanked Jeff for his time and he left the meeting.

1. Acceptance of Minutes

The minutes of the January 21, 2015 Municipal Utility Committee meeting were read and approved with a minor correction. A motion was made by Bob Russell to “accept the meeting minutes for meeting dated January 21, 2015, as corrected.” Bernie Manor seconded. The motion carried with David Shaw abstaining.

2. Financial Status – Water Utility

- A. The Cash Flow reports through December 2014 and the Expenditure and Revenue reports through January 2015 were reviewed. Bill Abbott questioned line 5591-269 –Software maintenance over expenditure of \$837.59. This appears to be from the expense for Invoice Cloud. He also questioned as to why there is a negative expense in the postage line 5591-238. Also, questioning the probable gas line expense reversal from last month. Donna is to follow up.

The PWW Operations Report of December 2014 was reviewed. Why is the Ducharme well still showing such small usage? It’s possible that if the well isn’t needed (as in winter months) and it may be shut down.

3. Old Business- Water Utility

- A. Abatement W-UTL-14-07 DeRosa 7B April Court

The tenant, Penny Latti, was granted bankruptcy protection on 7/23/14. Abatement request is to remove the balance on the water account in the amount of \$101.71. Motion made by David Shaw; seconded by Bob Russell “to grant abatement request W-UTL-14-07 in the amount of \$101.71 for the reason given.” The motion carried.

Items B & C were reviewed and acted on earlier in the meeting.

4. New Business – Water Utility -None

5. Financial Status – Sewer Utility

- A. The cash flow report from December 2014 and the Expenditure and Revenue reports from January 2015 were reviewed with no comments or questions. The balance of capacity is shown at 28,003 gpd.
- B. Bill Abbott provided the water and sewer profit and loss statement graphs to the Committee.

6. Old Business – Sewer Utility - None

7. New Business – Sewer Utility – None

8. Informational

The Committee received a copy of the newly refinanced Water Utility bond schedule. There are 13 remaining years and the Town will see a total savings of over a million dollars in interest costs.

The Committee was informed that the Board of Selectmen approved the 300 Webster St – Autumn Circle water line extension.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26pm with a motion made by David Shaw and seconded by Bill Abbott. The motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2015.

Donna Staffier-Sommers
Sewer Utility Administrative Aide

