

## Approved Hudson Sewer Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: December 11, 2008

### Attendees:

William Abbott, Chair  
Catherine Valley, Vice Chairman  
Don Gowdy - ABSENT,  
Bernie Manor  
Craig T. Bailey, Secretary  
Roger Coutu - Selectman's Liaison - ABSENT  
Gary Webster – Acting Town Engineer



The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Hudson Sewer Utility Committee was held Thursday, December 11, 2008 at 5:36 pm, but instead of the normal meeting room, the SUC met in the "Community Development Meeting Room" (where the Planning Board regularly meets,) of the Town of Hudson Town Hall. The Chairman William Abbott being in the chair. Secretarial duties were provided by Craig T. Bailey. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved with minor changes required. A motion was made by Bernie Manor to "Accept the meeting minutes for meeting dated 11/13/2008 as corrected." Seconded by Catherine Valley, the motion carried unanimously.

### 1. Abatements and Waivers

A. S-UTL-09-07 – 4 Tolles Riverside: Catherine Valley moved "To recommend that the Selectmen approve a partial abatement S-UTL-09-07." Seconded by Bernie Manor, the motion carried with some discussion.

B. S-UTL-09-08 – 49 Derry St: Catherine Valley moved "To recommend that the Selectmen approve the abatement S-UTL-09-08." Seconded by Bernie Manor, the motion carried with some discussion about what is the required time frame that a user must submit by.

C. S-UTL-09-09 – 17 Blackstone St: Bernie Manor moved "To recommend that the Selectmen approve the abatement S-UTL-09-09." Seconded by Catherine Valley, the motion carried without discussion.

D. S-UTL-09-10 – 180 Lowell Rd: Bernie Manor moved "To recommend that the Selectmen approve the abatement S-UTL-09-10, and recommend back billing in accordance with the Finance Directors' recommendation." Seconded by Catherine Valley, the motion carried unanimously.

### 2. Reports

The Treasurers' report dated 11/24/2008 was reviewed by the committee. The check register was reviewed, and a few questions were raised by the SUC, specifically Check #2000695 (what was needed at American Auto Seat Cover?) and also Check #2000688, (\$73,362.02 seems like a large figure.)

The Expenditure Report dated 12/03/08 was reviewed by the committee. Questions were raised during the November meeting regarding the "Mailing service," and why the expenditure report shows 90% used. Chairman Abbott has researched the answer: an initial annual pre-payment is made toward the service, and the town will debit that mailing account as it sends U.S. mail. Interim payments will be required through out the year as that account draws to zero. Then a short discussion regarding the proposed Vector Truck that the Hudson Public Works department would like to purchase. Apparently the Highway Department did not include half of the cost of a new vehicle in their budget. The Sewer Utility, however, has appropriated \$120,000 – as per the original agreement between the Highway Department and the Sewer Utility.

The Revenue report dated 12/03/08 was reviewed by the committee.

### **3. "Old Business"**

Balance of capacity – reduced to 58,253 GPD. Regarding the unused sewer allotment of industrial properties, Gary Webster and his staff will prepare a report of the industrial users, which users originally paid for allocation, and the current usage. Gary will try to have this report to present to the SUC for the January meeting.

### **4. New Business**

A. Ottarnic Pond Update: With only 3 remaining connections, the entire park will be 100% connected to the municipal sewer.

B. All the betterment district projects that have been constructed were tabulated. William met with Donna Staffier-Sommers, and they calculated the sum of all the capital improvements made to the system since 1987. What this value then created was a new "starting point" for the capital assessment formula. The Sewer Utility Committee will continue on this project.

C. Budget Review: William met with the budget committee on Monday, December 08, 2008, and the budget committee made no changes to the proposed budget.

D. Clement Road: The committee discussed the recent letter sent by Town Council that the owner of Tax Map 161, Lot 048-001 should be assessed a sewer betterment fee when a porta potty is installed at the property. The betterment district was created in 1989, and interest . However, the previous owner Lavoie asked and was granted by the Selectmen a reduction of the sewer betterment assessment from \$72,952.18 to \$48,517.36 plus 1.5% per annum. The current owners, the Cormiers, purchased the property on July, 2007. The Cormiers are asking that the installation of a porta potty does not trigger the sewer betterment district assessment fee to be paid at this time. Bernie Manor moved "that the SUC recommend that the Selectmen proceed in accordance with Town Council's findings, as presented in a letter dated March 19, 2007." After considerable discussion, the motion passed with Craig T. Bailey voting in the negative.

### **4. Informational:**

A. The library has been approved.

B. Ottarnic Pond sewer allocation request was approved, and the sewer has been accepted by the Selectmen.

C. The Investment Policy was reviewed by the SUC.

A member of the public, John Parkhurst, stayed at the meeting, and is very interested in joining the Sewer Utility Committee. After closing comments by committee members, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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Craig T. Bailey, Secretary