

FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 7, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:30 P.M.

All members present

Met with Mary McDowell, Dave Desrosiers and Chris Martin from the Sewer Extension Committee, Dennis Sitzko of AECOM, and Richard Bombadier, Lee Lalonde, and Michelle Turgeon of the Board of Health to discuss the proposed sewer project. The inclusion of the Community System users was thoroughly discussed with no real justification given as to charging a full betterment nor is there any hard evidence that the existing leach field is in need of repair. The Board of Health said that the leach field was over-designed by 100% against flow requirements and it's most likely that the flow is not close to design criteria. The only basis given was a casual conversation between Desrosiers and a member of the DEP that the DEP would make Granby go through a tough process due to changing requirements regarding common leach fields.

The use of 67% was just a number out of the air in that many locales did not pass the whole cost on to the users so this was a number that got the fee below \$20,000. The full cost to be borne by taxpayers could not be justified by the cost of the individual common elements meaning that the taxpayers were being asked to subsidize the cost. There was no answer as to why taxpayers were being asked to subsidize other than some emotional reasons of trying to solve a problem outlined in various studies.

It was learned that Phase II will not allow any individual users to connect and share the common infrastructure cost as that phase will only be a force main from the High School to a connecting point in the center of town. In fact the first phase would have the public safety complex pumping up the hill also. The hopes of the Planning Board to have sewers available for route 202 corridor development is not being addressed under any of the three phases. Upon questioning, AECOM said that the estimate for Phase II was \$3,000,000 while it has been widely mentioned that the cost of a treatment plant would be \$1-1.5 million. Considering that the existing leach field has been determined, but not yet in writing, to be useable, there will never be a cost benefit favorable to Phase II. Consequently, the hope that McDuffie would tie in with its own force main will also not occur.

No time was available to review the proposed brochure.

Motion made, seconded and approved unanimously to adjourn at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Glesmann, Clerk