



HARVARD SEWER & WATER COMMISSIONS

MINUTES

Wednesday, August 28, 2013
Town Hall Meeting Room

Cindy Russo, Chair *Kyle Hedrick* *Rick Maiore*

Present

Commissioners: Cindy Russo; Kyle Hedrick

Others: Rich Nota, DPW Director; Tim Bragan, Town Administrator; Paige O'Brien

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

Digging Procedure

Members of The Commission discussed implementing a standard procedure for digging near sewer lines and are considering joining DigSafe.

Water Commission – Updates from DPW Director, Rich Nota

- The DEP requires annual independent exterior tank inspection; the DPW creates a monthly report; the interior tank inspection is done every 5 years; the exterior needs to be recoated before next year; Mr. Nota gave a \$50K estimate; he states it can be done in-house, but they are limited by manpower.
- DPW maintains an O+M (operations and maintenance) manual. This is a living document that is kept up-to-date and includes pump manuals, etc.
- Annual maintenance items: flush system; exercise valves; turn on/off chlorination back up emergency system; hydrant opening inspection/maintenance/lubrication – process a challenge to find time to complete.
- New in the water – trace levels of MBTE; anti-knock agent from an unknown source; amount present is well below reportable levels.
- Ms. Russo requested a copy of the Source Protection Plan; Mr. Nota will deliver it to Town Hall and Ms. O'Brien will scan and distribute.

Review + Approve Minutes of 8/1/2013

Ms. Russo made motion to approve minutes as presented; Mr. Hedrick seconds; vote, aye, unanimous

Review Pending Applications for Connection Permits

- 18 Fairbank St., Carley - Mr. Hedrick moved to reconsider approval of application; Ms. Russo seconds; vote, aye, unanimous. Ms. Russo moved to hold application pending application for change of use (see HSC minutes dated 01/02/2013); Mr. Hedrick seconds; vote, aye, unanimous. Mr. Bragan will send a letter informing Mr. Carley.

Review Pending Applications for Drain Layer's Licenses

- No applications to approve.

Water Commission

Ms. Russo confirms that hydrologist Ted Morine (former Water Commissioner) will come to the September 11 meeting to inform the Water Commission about the history and procedures.

Mr. Hedrick motioned to adjourn at 10:10 a.m.; Ms. Russo seconded; vote aye, unanimous.

The next scheduled Commission meeting is Wednesday, September 4, 2013
9 a.m. in the town hall meeting room.

Respectfully submitted by Paige O'Brien

Documents cited:

HSC Minutes from 01/02/2013

Consideration of issues relating to connections

18 Fairbank Street – in 1997, at the time of sale, the property was under restriction of the Board of Health stating that the existing 3 bedrooms is the maximum that could be in this house. There were 3, 1-bedroom apartments with the house and the new owner proceeded to remove the kitchens from these apartments, creating additional bedrooms (currently 5 BR, 2.5 baths). Mr. Maiore recommended that a condition be attached to the betterment abatement that requires a complete review of the house's plumbing, to ensure that it is up to code. Ms. Russo suggested that The Commission grant the owner the abatement and let him know that as a condition to the connection of the system, a plumbing inspection will be required. Mr. Bragan made the clarification that these are two separate issues and suggested first taking care of the betterment abatement. Then the owner needs to decide whether or not to connect to the system. If connecting, the owner needs to file an application and it is at that time that The Commission deals with the bedroom issue.

Mr. Hedrick made a motion to grant abatement on betterments, Mr. Maiore seconded; vote aye, unanimous. Mr. Hedrick will draft a letter to inform the homeowner that the abatement was approved, but a change of use request must be made in order to connect.