



HARVARD SEWER & WATER COMMISSIONS

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 24, 2014
Town Hall Meeting Room

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

Present

Commissioners: Cindy Russo, Kyle Hedrick, Rich Maiore

Others: Lorraine Leonard, Finance Director; Judy Williams, Whitman Road; Dan McGrath, Fairbank Street; Tim Bragan, Town Administrator; Paige O'Brien

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Russo at 9:05 a.m.

Finance Department Request

- Ms. Leonard discussed how to use a T-shaped connector to have an outside water meter which doesn't incorporate sewer. Mr. Maiore moved to approve the requirement for this connector if property owners wish to have separate bills. Mr. Hedrick seconds; vote aye, unanimous.

Public Comment

- Judy Williams, 13 Whitman Road – Property is on a short dirt road with near Bare Hill Pond. Sewer connection stopped just short of Whitman Road. Ms. Williams' septic system has failed Title 5 and the groundwater is high. Engineering plans recommend an innovative/alternative system because of the narrow lot and wetlands. Ms. Williams inquired about the possibility of being able to tie into the town sewer system. The Commission explained that because there isn't already a pipeline installed, this type of expansion is more of a "second tier" development (first tier being those properties out of the sewer district but near already installed pipeline).
- Dan McGrath, 28 Fairbank Street - Applied for connection in the Spring of 2013 and the barn on the property with a sink + toilet was approved to be included in the connection. Mr. McGrath is considering converting the barn into an accessory apartment. The Commission informed Mr. McGrath that he would need to pay a privilege charge (essentially half of the betterment fee) and apply for a special permit from the Planning Board. In the meantime, the Commission encouraged him to apply for connection with sketches that represent both connections. If connect barn as is (not a dwelling) Commission would like a statement if Mr. McGrath are going to use as a dwelling.

Review & Approve Minutes of 9/10/2014

Minute approval tabled until next meeting.

Town Administrator's Report & Update

- Grease trap at Bromfield School - has been ages since it's been maintained on whatever basis the law requires; TB will send notification on behalf of the Commission. RM Motion to authorize KH seconds.

Review Pending Applications for Connection Permits

- No applications to review

Planning for 2015/2016

WATER

- Rationalize status of wells and capacities
- Possible new water districts
- Review and confirm Devens connection rights
- Operational issues; get up to date with DPW/Rich and Ron
- Explore possibilities of extension of well including discontinued well as a potable secondary emergency water source (iron content makes it not safe to drink)
- Complete and adopt regulations

SEWER

- Establish a current usage and future capacity curve
- Review existing district boundaries
- With BOH input identify future technologies
- From EDAT report explore a commercial district tied to Devens
- Operational issues, e.g., rate hearing

Ms. Russo – will develop a more specific list from brainstorming and apply a timeline.

Capital Planning

CPIC is wondering if the Commission Placeholder for new well and expansion. Given current priorities Ms. Russo will let CPIC know that the placeholder isn't necessary at this time.

Commissioners will send a list of questions to Mr. Bragan and he will send them to DPW and invite them to the next meeting to discuss questions.

Ms. Russo motioned to adjourn at 9:50 a.m.; Mr. Hedrick seconds; vote aye, unanimous.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 8, 2014.

Respectfully submitted by Paige O'Brien