

**ADVISORY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
of  
August 27, 2014**

A meeting of the Advisory & Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, August 27, 2014. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Moody at 7:00PM and was conducted in the Mayflower II Meeting Room at the Plymouth Town Hall, 11 Lincoln Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts.

**PRESENT****Fourteen members of the committee were present:**

Cornelius Bakker, Kevin Canty, Richard Gladdys, Michael Hanlon, Harry Helm, Kevin Hennessey, Michael Hourahan, Shelagh Joyce, Ethan Kusmin, Kevin Lynch, Christopher Merrill, John Moody, Marc Sirrico, Charles Stevens

**ABSENT****One member of the committee was absent:**

Harry Salerno

**AGENDA ITEMS****Town Meeting Article Presentations****Article 40 – Barber Beach Rake:**

To see if the Town will vote to RAISE AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE AND MAINTENANCE OF A BARBER BEACH RAKE TO CLEAN AND MAINTAIN THE PUBLIC BEACHES AND RECREATION AREAS IN THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH. or take any other action relative thereto.  
BY PETITION: Kenneth Buechs, et al

Kenneth Buechs said several years ago there was an odor issue in town caused by seaweed. He decided to investigate how to eliminate or remediate the problem. In his research he found 18 other towns using a Barber Beach Rake to remove seaweed from their beaches. These towns/cities are: Quincy, Weymouth, Bourne, Mashpee, Falmouth, Beverly, Gloucester, Newbury, Newburyport, Dartmouth, Wareham, Harwich, Barnstable, Dennis, Eastham, Provincetown, Chatham, and Yarmouth.

The rake is pulled by a 4 wheel drive tractor with PTO. The rake utilizes a conveyor which drops debris into a hopper and no sand is picked up in the process. The contents of the hopper are then placed into a dump truck and hauled away. The rakes not only pick up seaweed but also debris like wood, trash and syringes. Rakes can be especially helpful after a storm to get the beaches cleaned up. The rakes are versatile and some towns use them at recreation fields to dethatch grass, maintain infields and pick up litter.

Last year the company (H. Barber & Sons) did a demonstration at Plymouth Beach which Mr. Buechs and some town officials attended. The rake did a good job. Mr. Buechs passed around a binder with color photos of before and after shots of Plymouth Beach and other beaches as well.

While conducting research, Mr. Buechs spoke with Joe Suppa of the Mass DCR (Department of Conservation & Recreation). DCR uses a rake at 7 of their beaches: Horseneck Beach, Revere Beach, Carson Beach, Salisbury Beach, Hopkinton Park, Houghton's Pond, and Nahant Beach. He said that at Carson Beach they use 1 person to run the rake, 3 hours per day, 3 times per month.

Mr. Buechs said that Plymouth will add the seaweed to compost.

A study was conducted in Provincetown over two years where they polled beachgoers. There was a very positive reaction to the beach raking.

Seaweed left on the beach is a type of waste which attracts bugs and has been shown to contain fecal material.

Mr. Buechs discussed an email he received from David Gould, Director of Marine & Environmental Affairs for Plymouth. His Department is supportive of the use of the beach rake at Plymouth Beach (but not beyond Manter's Point), Morton Park, Hedges Pond and White Horse Beach. Mr. Gould said they have begun the permitting process. He also said he would work with Parks and Recreation to see if there were any other ways the rake could be utilized.

Harry Helm asked how Carson Beach compares in size with our beaches.  
Mr. Buechs said it is similar to the public portion of White Horse Beach.

Richard Gladdys asked if it was the Model 6000 that we were considering purchasing.  
Mr. Buechs said yes.

Richard Gladdys said that a 3 cubic yard hopper does not sound very large and may be quick to fill up.  
Mr. Buechs said it is hard to explain but showed a picture of one 3 cubic yard load. He said that at the demo at Plymouth Beach they did not even fill one dump truck.

Richard Gladdys asked about the sifting process to then separate the trash from the seaweed.  
Mr. Buechs said that he has not delved into what that process might entail.

John Moody said that there are different settings on the rake so that the first pass could be set to pick up the seaweed and the second pass could be reset to pick up smaller items like trash and needles.  
Mr. Buechs agreed that both the width and depth could be adjusted.

Michael Hourahan asked what the cost of beach cleanup is today and what the cost of cleanup using the rake would be by comparison.  
Mr. Buechs said he did not know.

Charles Stevens asked who would man the rake and would it entail hiring new staff.  
Mr. Buechs said that would be at the discretion of the DPW Director.  
Jonathan Beder, DPW Director, said that he attended the demo and thought it was very interesting. We currently have DPW crews that go to each beach before the season starts to do clean up. The tipping fee is increasing on January 1<sup>st</sup> from \$23 to \$65 per load.  
Trash can be dealt with through our contract with Covanta.  
We have a tractor and dump truck that can be utilized.  
It may take 1 or possibly 2 employees a half day per week at each beach, depending on need. It would most likely be a Parks or Highway employee but would definitely require additional staff.

Charles Stevens asked if we had space to store the rake.

Mr. Beder said that there is space in the yard but not indoors. This type of equipment should be stored indoors so we would need to figure out options. This equipment would also require cleaning each time it is used so that is another issue to look into.

Charles Stevens asked if Capital Outlay has heard about this request yet.

Mr. Buechs said that was next on the agenda.

Marc Sirrico said he has seen these rakes before and they do a good job. He is wondering if there was discussion about renting the rake from another town or sharing the purchase with another town. He is concerned that at \$54,000 to purchase plus the cost to store, use and maintain, that we might not get our money's worth.

Mr. Buechs said that he has not asked other towns about renting theirs or renting out ours.

Ethan Kusmin wondered if by moving the seaweed from the beaches to composting at Manomet, if we would be creating a bigger problem with the odors there.

Mr. Beder said that the material will go to Camelot Drive behind the sewer treatment plant and that there will be an odor, so we would need to work out the details. It would go to Camelot to sit and sort and then go to Manomet to compost.

Michael Hanlon said he remembered the odor issue several years ago around White Horse Beach and asked what the source was.

Mr. Buechs said it was originally thought to be a septic issue but after investigation by the town, it was determined to be from the seaweed. The water was not cold enough in the winter to kill off part of the seaweed so it had an awful odor.

Michael Hanlon asked if the 7 beaches listed were all DCR beaches and if it was DCR staff or a contractor that raked the beaches.

Mr. Buechs said that yes they were all DCR beaches and that after speaking with Mr. Suppa at DCR, it sounded like it was DCR staff that performed the raking.

Michael Hanlon said that David Gould's email refers to a permitting process.

Mr. Buechs said that yes there is a permitting process and that the information from Provincetown indicated the permitting process their Conservation Department went through.

Kevin Hennessey said that he saw that Barber was going to honor last year's price quote but was wondering if any research had been done to determine that was a fair price, similar to what other towns paid for their rakes.

Mr. Buechs said that there are different models at different price points. There are no middlemen this is coming directly from the manufacturer. The company will only deal directly with the town. There is no reason to believe it is not a fair price.

Shelagh Joyce said she went on the website and saw the rakes were used to pick up seaweed, trash and rocks and would Plymouth use it for all of those items.

Mr. Buechs said yes.

Shelagh Joyce asked if lease to buy is an option or is it against Town philosophy.

Mr. Buechs said he can not answer that.

Mr. Beder said that generally the Town does not rent to own. With specialized equipment like this that is usually not an option anyway. The Town utilizes the State Bid List when making purchases and Barber is on the list.

Cornelius Bakker said that while he appreciates Mr. Buechs work he believes there is a problem with the chain of command, that the Article should be presented by the proper department and not go around DPW.

John Moody said that in Massachusetts any citizen may place an Article on a Town Meeting Warrant provided they get enough signatures on their petition and that Mr. Bakker's criticism is not appropriate.

Mr. Bakker said that he accepts the criticism and will wait for the debate session.

Richard Gladdys asked if seaweed is a potential feed source for the anaerobic digester the Town is hoping to build.

Mr. Beder said that is a good question and he is not sure of the answer so he will find out and follow up with the Chair.

Kevin Canty said that with multiple beaches and fields he was wondering if a rake would place a burden on the infrastructure of the town and if it was easily portable or would block roads.

Mr. Buechs said it is very portable and equivalent to a truck with a flatbed trailer with a backhoe on it. The tractor would be attached to the rake and could pull onto and off of the trailer while attached.

Ethan Kusmin asked if the Town is ready for this equipment or even wants this equipment.

Mr. Beder said yes, it is an item that the DPW had placed on its Capital request list last year but that it did not make it through the prioritizing process to make it onto the Town Manager's recommended list. The rake would be very helpful. It would require a team effort from DPW and Marine & Environmental. There are restrictions on its use between Memorial Day and Labor Day that we would need to look into. He believes it will lead to a cost savings as far as manpower.

Mr. Buechs said that a lot of people do not have 4 wheel drive vehicles to get out to the more pristine Long Beach so they go to the other town beaches. Seaweed is everywhere, it is a mess and people are being bitten by bugs. The Chamber of Commerce told Mr. Buechs that in a survey visitors listed beaches as the #3 reason they come to Plymouth. The Town charges \$15 for visitors to park at the beach. He would like to see clean beaches for citizens as well as visitors.

**Christopher Merrill made a motion to approve Article 40 as presented. Kevin Hennessey, second.**

Kevin Lynch said that he is concerned with the composting aspect regarding how the hypodermic needles will be handled.

**Charles Stevens made a motion to postpone to an uncertain date based on delivery of following information:**

1. Permits are received from Commonwealth to operate
2. Staffing agreements are in place for operation
3. Neighbors abutting the disposal site at Camelot Drive approve of siting materials
4. Capital Outlay approves of purchase

**Marc Sirrico, second.**

**Ethan Kusmin made a motion to amend the motion to postpone by adding:**

**5. Confirmation of ability to utilize during peak summer season**

**Marc Sirrico, second.**

Marc Sirrico said that the rake would be useful but agrees that we need to be able to utilize it during the summer months and that other questions need to be answered because this is a significant amount of money. As long as it is usable during the summer, it is a very viable topic.

Kevin Hennessey said that the equipment is great but that the hypodermic needles are of huge concern and he would like to see answers about the sorting process and composting process, but is not making a motion to further complicate things.

Harry Helm understands the concern and reason to postpone but says the problem at the beaches is horrific and almost unlivable. He is concerned that by postponing we are going to delay the whole process and we will miss the opportunity to get our beaches clean by next Memorial Day. Time is of the essence and the permitting process is already underway.

Richard Gladdys said Mr. Stevens' motion is well made. We need to see the real costs including sifting and sorting and how the medical waste will be handled. He thinks finances should be in the motion.

Kevin Canty said that all costs should be examined. A cost-analysis should be performed comparing current costs with new should the rake be purchased.

Shelagh Joyce wondered about the quantity of needles found on the beach, if it is a small number or large number.

**Vote on the amendment to the motion to postpone passed (11-2-0). Harry Helm and Christopher Merrill voted in opposition.**

Returning to the motion to postpone, Charles Stevens clarified that he is not asking to postpone until spring. He said that once the information is brought back, we can reopen the issue perhaps even before Fall Town Meeting.

Christopher Merrill asked if it will indeed be before Fall Town Meeting.

John Moody said that he is not sure but, he would like Mr. Buechs or Mr. Beder to answer if those items can be addressed before Fall Town Meeting.

Mr. Beder said that he would do his best.

**Kevin Canty made a motion to amend the motion to postpone by adding:**

**6. Cost analysis has been completed comparing current cost of maintaining the beaches with future cost of maintaining if rake is purchased**

**Charles Stevens, second.**

**Motion to amend the motion to postpone passes unanimously (13-0-0).**

**Returning to the motion to postpone, as twice amended, motion passes unanimously (13-0-0).**

**Article 17 – Samoset Street Sewer System Expansion:**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Five Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$5,600,000), for the construction costs and other related Town and engineering services costs associated with the Samoset Street Sewer System Expansion – Phase 1, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing, or otherwise, or any combination thereof; and to provide that such betterment assessments as the Board of Selectmen may make for the cost of such project, in accordance with Section 149-3 of the Plymouth Code and all other applicable law, shall bear interest at a rate equal to two (2) percent above the rate of interest chargeable to the Town for such project from the thirtieth day after the assessments have been committed to the collector; or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Jonathan Beder, Director of Public Works, said that this sewer system expansion project is a first for Plymouth where 100% of the project cost is going to be assessed through land owners and abutters. He then introduced Chad Whiting, Assistant Wastewater Manager, who gave a power point presentation on the project.

**History**

- AECOM developed CIP Jan 2012
- Associated with CWMP Identifying Key Areas for Expansion
- Utilize Existing System Capacity
- Adopted Betterments April 2013
- Town Meeting (ART 30) April 6, 2013 Voted in Betterments G.L 83 § 15
- Samoset St Design June 2013

**What is the Sewer Enterprise fund?**

- Separate Accounting System for Sewer Services
- Funded by the Ratepayers
- Current Debt: 44.9% of the Sewer Budget is Debt
- Betterments Necessary to fund extension projects at this time

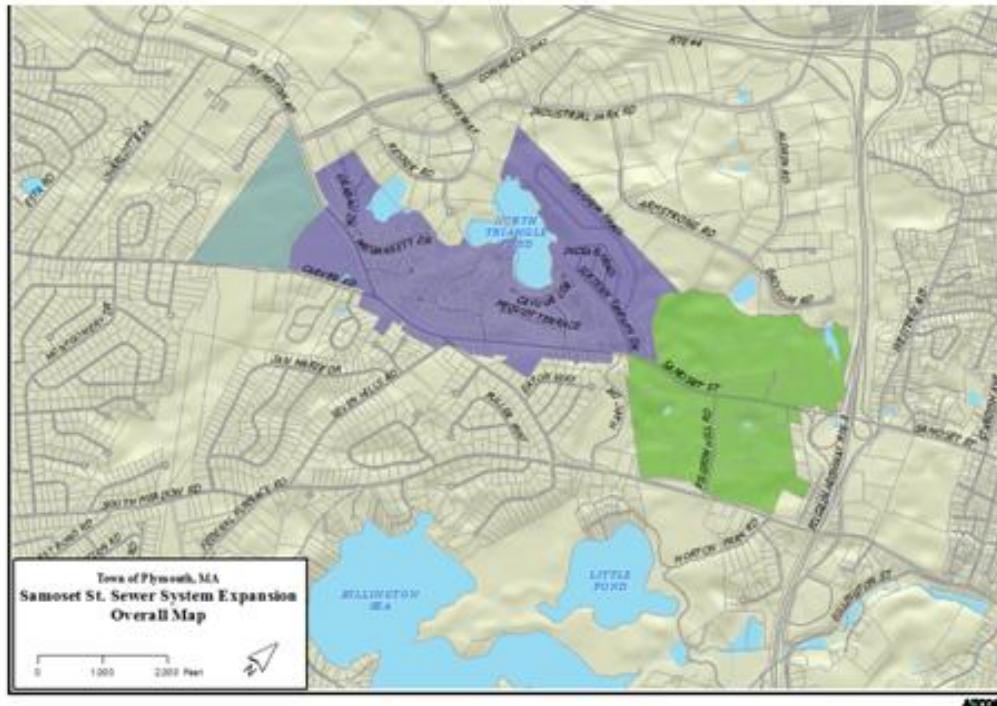
**Plymouth Sewer System**

- Existing system is 60 Miles of Pipeline, 7 Pumping Stations, approx 3,000 service connections
- North Plymouth Sewer Extension (9400 ft.): 2002-Funded by the Rate Payers \$2,191,000
- Obery St Sewer Extension (2200 ft.): 2006-Funded by Grant DECAM \$800,000

**Samoset St Sewer Expansion Project Overview**

- Gravity Sewer ~ 6,000 feet
- Pump Station
- Force Main ~ 3,500 feet
- Service Connections to Property Line
- Paving

## PROPOSED SERVICE AREA



## PROJECT AREA



### Project Schedule

- Engineering Design - Completed
- Fall Town Meeting - October 2014
- Advertise for Bids - Fall 2014
- Start of Construction - Spring 2015

## Project Status

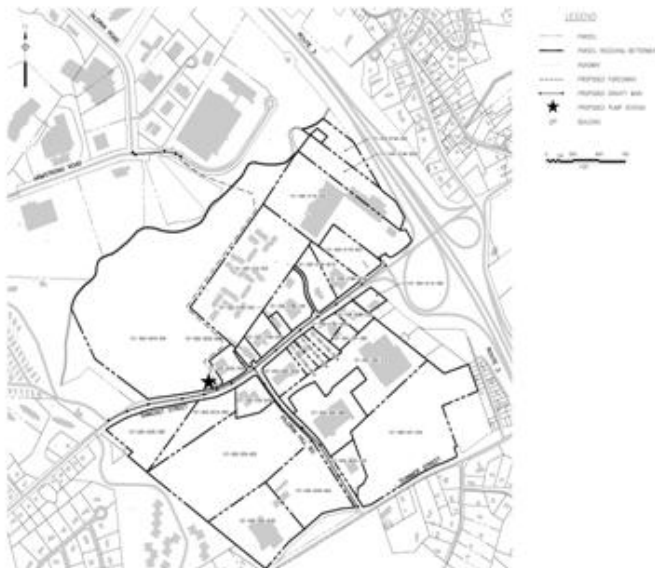
### Items Completed:

- Detailed Ground Survey
- Utility Information
- Subsurface Exploration
- Detailed Design Plans

### Items To Be Completed:

- Contract Documents
- Town Meeting Approval
- Advertise for Bids
- Award Contract

## 30 “BETTERED” PARCELS



## Betterments

- Town Adopted Use of Sewer Betterment Assessments, April 2013 - Article 30
- Special Tax Assessed on “Bettered” Parcels to Recover Up to 100 % of Project Costs
- Based Upon a Uniform Unit Method
- Each Unit, Referred to as an Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU), Shall be Equal to the Estimated Wastewater Flow from a Single Family Residence

## Betterment Costs

- Town to Contribute an Estimated \$1.1M to Project for Town Owned Site 101
- Final Betterment Costs Based on Final Project Costs
- Betterment Payments - Lump Sum or Annual Payments (Maximum 20 Year Apportionment With Committed Interest)
- Multi Family and Non Residential Properties are Calculated into a Number of EDUs
- Calculation of Property EDUs
- $\text{Property Flow} / \text{One EDU} = \text{Property EDUs}$
- EDU and Property Flows Developed Based on Water Consumption & Land Use Zoning Code



Determining Estimated Betterment Costs:

**10 Acre Industrial Property**

10 Acres x 972 gpd/Acre = 9,720 gpd

9,720 gpd/297 gpd = 33 EDU's

33 EDU x \$8,000 per EDU = \$264,000

**10 Acre Commercial Property**

10 Acres x 1,038 gpd/Acre = 10,380 gpd

10,380 gpd/297 gpd = 35 EDU's

35 EDU x \$8,000 per EDU = \$280,000

Available for Questions:

- Jonathan Beder, Director of Public Works, Town of Plymouth  
508-830-4162 ext. 107; JBeder@townhall.plymouth.ma.us
- Sheila Sgarzi, P.E., Water and Wastewater Engineer, Town of Plymouth  
508-747-1620 ext. 200; SSGarzi@townhall.plymouth.ma.us
- Gary Frizzell, Sewer Division Superintendent, Town of Plymouth  
508-830-4159; GFrizzell@townhall.plymouth.ma.us
- Chad Whiting, Assistant Wastewater Manager, Town of Plymouth  
508-830-4159 ext. 213; CWhiting@townhall.plymouth.ma.us

Marc Sirrico asked what the projected betterment is for residential.

Mr. Whiting said it is \$8,000 for one single family home.

Richard Gladdys asked if undeveloped land, like that on Pilgrim Hill Road behind Sullivan Tire, would be assessed a betterment.

Mr. Whiting said yes they would be assessed.

Michael Hanlon asked about the proposed service area labeled Phase I and if the other shaded area on the map was for the next phase.

Mr. Beder said yes, they broke the project up into phases because it was too large an area to do all at once. They decided to get the commercial/industrial phase moving first. The second phase is more residential and they have begun the design process for that phase.

Michael Hanlon asked if Parcel #101 on the map and owned by the Town of Plymouth is buildable and developable.

Mr. Beder said that it is not buildable and developable at this time. As part of the Camelot Treatment Plant Project, the state required the Town to keep an additional lot as back up in case the Camelot Treatment Plant failed and this is that particular lot.

Michael Hanlon asked if it was appropriate to assess a betterment on that property.

Mr. Beder said it was. Betterments are calculated based using a uniform method which measures frontage, lot area and potential water consumption. He is working with the State to relax the constraint on the Town owned lot which may allow the Town to sell, build or develop that lot in the future.

Michael Hanlon said the language of the article did not specify the percentage of the project cost covered by betterments and asked if the Selectmen decided it would be 100% funded by betterments.

Mr. Beder said yes the Selectmen had voted unanimously.

Christopher Merrill asked what affect this would have on the Aquifer Protection Zones. Mr. Beder said that this would improve the aquifer by removing nitrogen. This sewer expansion project would help address environmental concerns.

Kevin Lynch said in the presentation it stated that 45% of the sewer budget is debt. He then asked how that came to be.

Mr. Beder said that is why there has been apprehension about expansion because they do not want to borrow any more. This project is going to funded 100% by the betterments so they do not have to borrow any money.

Lynne Barrett, Director of Finance, said that the current debt in the Sewer Enterprise Fund was incurred in the mid to late 1990s when they purchased the site, designed and built the Wastewater Treatment Plant. That debt will be completely paid off in FY2022.

Richard Gladdys asked how the betterment cost might be different if there were a strip mall planned for a property verses a single office building.

Mr. Whiting said the betterment cost would be the same. It is calculated on a gallons per day per acre net average.

Mr. Beder concurred saying it is not calculated by tenant or broken down at all. It is by total parcel.

Kevin Lynch asked what happens if a business then increased its usage and went above the usage amount they were originally charged.

Mr. Whiting said that if they go over their flow rate they are charged an additional fee to increase gallonage to that property.

**Michael Hanlon made a motion to approve Article 17 as presented. Richard Gladdys, second.**

Mr. Gladdys commented that he supports this project. It increases the value of properties in that area, stimulates other development, and is a positive move in a great location.

**The motion passes unanimously (13-0-0).**

**Article 2B –Enterprise Departmental Expenses:**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 7B, 7C, and 7D of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting warrant, and, as necessary, to raise, appropriate, transfer or borrow funds for the purpose of supplementing enterprise departmental expenses, and/or to reduce certain departmental expenses or otherwise amend said vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Lynne Barrett, Director of Finance, said that Article 2B is primarily a housekeeping item due to the fact that some things have happened since voting the enterprise budgets back in April. With both the Water Enterprise Fund and Sewer Enterprise Fund, we anticipated borrowing money and estimated the interest. When we went out to borrow we received a coupon rate of 1% on the notes so interest came in lower than anticipated. Also with the Samoset Sewer project we borrowed less than we anticipated. Therefore Ms. Barrett is recommending the following budget amendments to the Enterprise Fund budgets voted at the spring 2014 Annual Town Meeting:

Article 7B – Water Enterprise Fund:

- Reduce Debt line by \$113,150

Michael Hanlon asked Ms. Barrett to explain a coupon rate and how it is different from an interest rate.

Ms. Barrett said that when we go out and ask for bids on a note, we take the coupon rate and subtract the premium to get the net interest cost. We then award bids based on the net interest cost. Statute dictates how we may use the premium. If we have a \$530,000 design with a coupon rate of 1% the interest cost is \$5,300 then we receive a premium.

**Kevin Canty made a motion to approve the budget adjustment to Article 7B as presented. Shelagh Joyce, second. The motion passes unanimously (13-0-0).**

Article 7C – Sewer Enterprise Fund:

- Reduce Salary & Wages line by \$46,380
- Reduce Debt line by \$91,692
- Reduce Indirect Cost line by \$29,644

When we built the Wastewater Treatment Plant we contracted with Veolia to design, operate and build. As a result, several Sewer Department employees then worked for Veolia. The final employee in this arrangement just left to work for the Highway Department. That is the reason for the decrease in the Salary & Wage line. Also the Sewer Enterprise Fund will no longer pay the benefits nor receive reimbursement from Veolia, so that accounts for the decrease in the Indirect Cost line. The reduction in the Debt line was discussed previously (when discussing the coupon rates at the same time as the Water Enterprise Fund presentation).

John Moody asked who was left in the Salary & Wages line now that these employees were gone. Ms. Barrett responded that the salaries and wages of the Superintendent, Assistant Wastewater Manager, part-time Clerical worker, and overtime were all remaining in that line item.

**Michael Hanlon made a motion to approve the budget adjustments to Article 7C as presented. Ethan Kusmin, second. The motion passes unanimously (13-0-0).**

Article 7C – Sewer Enterprise Fund:

- Reduce Other Expenditures line by \$390,402
- Reduce Indirect Cost line by \$32,730

Ms. Barrett said that due to the success of the Town's trash and recycling programs (Pay As You Throw, SMART, curbside trash and recycling, and the new operations at the Manomet Transfer Station) there has been a drastic reduction in the # of tons and bags originally estimated in the budget. This has led to a reduction in the budget lines of \$126,791 for Curbside and \$195,161 for Transfer Station Operations. Also equipment rental expenses have decreased because they purchased some new equipment for the new operations set up at the Manomet Transfer Station. This has led to a reduction in that budget line of \$68,450. The sum of these reductions is \$390,402. Due to these reductions, the Indirect Costs have also been reduced by \$32,730.

John Moody said this is good news.

Michael Hanlon pointed out that there was an increase in total customers and a decrease in tonnage. Mr. Beder said the goal was to control costs and we have been able to drastically reduce tonnage. He is very pleased.

Shelagh Joyce asked what will happen to the money that we do not use.

Ms. Barrett said that it is a budget line and if that money is not spent it will just stay in that Enterprise Fund.

**Michael Hanlon made a motion to approve the budget adjustments to Article 7D as presented. Christopher Merrill, second. The motion passes unanimously (13-0-0).**

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Old/New/Other Business**

Marc Sirrico reviewed Robert's Rules of Order and says that in order to move the question there has to be a second and then a 2/3 vote. He believes that was not followed in moving a question in last week's meeting.

John Moody said that we will be more cognizant of that moving forward.

Kevin Lynch asked what constitutes Old Business on the agenda.

John Moody says that can include items that we discussed previously that had to follow up on, incomplete business, or items that were voted that we would like to reopen.

John Moody read into record correspondence he received from Thomas Kelley, Chairman of the Plymouth Retirement Board.

Friday, August 22, 2014 6:12 PM

Subject: meeting

Hi Mr Moody,,, i was watching the fincom meeting on 8/20/2014 and wanted to let you know that there are two very large books that the retirement board has on file with the town manager's office and finance office. These books outline the operation of the pension system in Plymouth as well as the state. I am aware that there are many new members to your committee and i can tell you from 20 years as a town meeting member and 20 years on the retirement board your job will not be an easy one. I spoke to Mr Stevens today on his comment and corrected his understanding of the system. The comment by Mr Hanlon is just plain wrong. The stipend is the average that is being paid by other towns and the retirement board feels this amount is fair and is not as stated a "good side deal". There will be deductions taken from this increase to pay for the pension cost so the statement by Mr Hanlon i respectfully request should be retracted at your next meeting for the public record. There will be no measurable impact to the retirement system at all.

In closing i have always in the past and will continue in the future answer any questions your committee might have i just hope that your committee would give me the opportunity to answer and questions before statements that are incorrect are spoken publicly. I have attached a recent letter to the Plymouth Board of Selectman on the retirements system performance and funding progress in one year. Please distribute this email to your committee and the attached letter.

Thank You

Thomas Kelley, Chairman of the Plymouth Retirement Board

John Moody summarized the referenced attached letter for the record. It is a letter to Board of Selectmen Chairman Kenneth Tavares regarding the pension fund and that it is in good shape and an area of minimal concern.

John Moody said that he replied to Mr. Kelley and said he would read the correspondence into record. He also said that he can not require a member to retract a statement and that everyone is entitled to their own opinions.

Charles Stevens confirmed that he did have a conversation with Mr. Kelley but does not agree with part of the statement in the letter that reads "... and corrected his understanding of the system".

John Moody said that he asked Mr. Kelley to appear before the Advisory & Finance Committee and that Mr. Kelley agreed to appear before the Fixed Cost/Finance Budget Sub-Committee. Shelagh Joyce asked if there was a particular reason Mr. Kelley did not want to appear before the full Committee.

John Moody said that he did not want to speculate but that it seemed that Mr. Kelley felt there would be more value in meeting with the sub-committee.

Charles Stevens asked if there were any Meeting Minutes to approve.

John Moody said the minutes are on next week's agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

**Christopher Merrill moved for adjournment.**

**Richard Gladdys, second. The motion for adjournment carries unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kere Gillette