

Randolph Water/Wastewater Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – January 29, 2019

Randolph Town Hall – 7 Summer Street

Present: Members Suzanne Pickett, Larry Satcowitz, Dave Farnham and John Lutz (Ross Evans was absent), Water/Wastewater Superintendent Chris Chambers, Utility Billing/Staff Accountant Michele Pallas, Town Engineer Mardee Sanchez and Public Bob Piasecki.

Chair Satcowitz called to order: 8:34 AM. New member Farnham was introduced to those whom he didn't already know.

1. Public to be heard –

Mr. Piasecki of 34 Elm Street brought the Committee up to date on the situation with his property. Basically, his property had a septic system that the Sewer District – unbeknownst to it - was legally responsible for the maintenance of and for which the owners paid wastewater rates. During the Elm Street construction in summer of 2017, the Town removed the septic tank and connected the house to the public sewer system. Ever since then, the Piaseckis have complained of sporadic but on-going sewer smells that started in the basement but would permeate the whole house. The Town assisted the Piaseckis in trying to find the cause of the odor by hiring Dimmick to camera the pipes (including the vent pipe) and by testing for typical sewer gases, but couldn't find anything amiss. The Piaseckis finally hired a plumber who made it his mission to solve the mystery. That plumber put in a house trap in the sewer line and the odor has stopped. Mr. Piasecki indicated that the stress of living with the situation for over 17 months caused him much angst and migraines. He requested that the Town reimburse him for the cost of the plumber's work, which he estimates will be between \$500-600 (not all the bills are in). Mr. Piasecki was told the request would be considered by the Committee when all the bills were in and the Committee's recommendation would go to the Town Manager.

2. Review of Town Plan

The Committee reviewed the language in the current Town Plan, which the Planning Commission is in the final stages of revising. It suggested several additions to the utilities and facilities chapter, including:

- Adding a policy to expand water and wastewater service to more of Beanville Road.
- Adding an action item to pursue grants to expand services to more of Beanville Road if these services are necessary for economic development.
- Adding an action item to require replacement of water and wastewater infrastructure, if needed, when a road is to be reconstructed.
- Adding an action item to pursue upgrading the water meter reading system.

3. Review fee schedule revisions

Chambers initiated revising the fee schedule to change and simplify the service charges and to add 10% to the cost of materials supplied to customers to cover the cost of ordering, taking in or picking up and storing the materials. The revised schedule will be presented to the Selex for adoption at its February meeting.

4. Project's and Systems' Updates

- There is a water leak on Hargrace Drive that will be fixed when this weather permits (likely next week).

- The gearbox on the centrifuge blew up and was replaced with grant money left over from the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) project. A spare gearbox more suited for higher torque was also purchased.
- The WWTP is processing sludge for Dimmick on a trial basis. It is going well and should be a revenue generator for the department.
- The Town Manager is still working with DEC to amend the water system’s permit to operate (PTO). However, to preserve our appeal, a summary judgement has been submitted to the court.

5. Revisions to ordinances and review of capital budget - Tabled

6. Minutes to Approve

Pickett/Lutz moved to approve the minutes of November 26, 2018 as written. The motion passed 4-0-0.

7. Old/new business – Next meeting to be schedule via a doodle poll.

8. Adjournment

Farnham/Pickett moved to adjourn. The motion passed 4-0-0 and the meeting ended at 10:32 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: as written as edited

Mardee Sanchez

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