

NEW SHOREHAM SEWER AND WATER COMMISSION

JOINT MONTHLY MEETING

Monday • June 20, 2016 • 4:20 p.m.

Town Hall, Old Town Road, Block Island

PRESENT were SEWER Commission members: P. McNerney (Chair), Steve Draper (Vice-Chair), Martha Ball, Brad Marthens, Tom Doyle and Kathy Szabo (Alternate)

PRESENT were WATER Commission members: Brad Marthens (Chair), Tom Doyle (Vice Chair), P. McNerney, Martha Ball, Steve Draper and Kathy Szabo (Alternate)

ABSENT were members: Terri Chmiel

ALSO PRESENT were: Sewer Superintendent Chris Blane, Water Superintendent John Breunig, Town Manager Nancy Dodge, Finance Director Amy Land, Deputy Finance Director Mona Helterline, Legal Counsel David Petrarca, Administrative Assistant Kara Stinnett and Lars Trodson (BI Times)

With a quorum present the meeting was called to order at 5:08 p.m. by P. McNerney.

JOINT WATER and SEWER DISTRICT

1. Discussion and potential action regarding the minutes of May 9th, 2016 and May 23rd, 2016 monthly meeting and June 6th, 2016 Sewer Special Meeting.

MOTION made by P. McNerney to accept the minutes of May 9th, May 23rd and June 6th meetings. Motion seconded by B. Marthens.

Ayes: 5 (Marthens, McNerney, Draper, Ball and Doyle) Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

2. Discussion and potential action regarding possible new radio system integration with the Town of New Shoreham.

At the June 6th special meeting Bill McCombe stopped in to announce a new radio system they soon hope to integrate into the town. P. McNerney said he had spoken to both McCombe and Howell Conant about the system. The new radios would allow all town departments to communicate with one another but would also allow each department to have their own dedicated frequency as well which would encompass the whole island. The program is being funded by a grant so the only cost to both the Sewer and Water plants would be the cost of the radios themselves which would be about \$450-\$500 apiece.

WATER DISTRICT

3. Discussion and potential action regarding Financials and Aging.

Expenditures are looking good for the end of the year. As said in previous months the electricity line may end up going over as the usage was high than expected.

4. Operations Report.

Revenues are at 96% for meter reads to where they were at 92.5% last

year so J. Breunig is hopeful that it should go well over by the end of the fiscal year. J. Breunig reported that he and his crew were done with the RO3; they are now waiting on Watermark Electric to finish their part of the project which work will probably go through the summer. They also worked on and finished rerouting a line by the Glass Onion. The Consumer Confidence report went out last month, this year a website address was placed on the bills instead of stuffing each bill individually. Backflow testing is finished for this year and they come back in October to do any failures that need to be retested.

SEWER DISTRICT

5. Discussion and potential action regarding Financials and Aging.

- **Tax sale update**

There is now only one customer left on the tax sale list. Certified notices were sent out; the next step is to advertise in the paper.

6. Operations Report.

C. Blane stated all parameters were met this month. The concentrate from the Water Company is now being discharged to the effluent out fall as of May, it is now blended with the sewers and is discharged into the ocean. Fixed and replaced a pump as well as fixing another pump to have at the plant as a backup. Champlin's Marina was also Calibrate for the year.

7. Engineers Report.

- **2014 USDA Sewer Grant Project Summary.**

Included was a schedule and a description of the work that is going to be done, including removal and installation of new sludge feed

pumps, polymer pump and sewerage pumps as well as modifications to the SCADA system.

8. Discussion and potential action regarding the sewer parking lot lease.

Legal Counsel Petrarca made up a new lease for the parking lot, that he felt better represented the Commission, included in this was talk about liability insurance to include public liability, making sure Corporate statuses were up to date, what the responsibilities were for abandoned vehicles and the option to renew within a certain time frame. It was again discussed among the Commission as to whether the rent should be increased. P. McNerney said he would talk with Ned Phillips to see where he stands and we can discuss again at next month's meeting.

9. Discussion and potential action regarding the fence at the WPCF.

Superintendent Blane informed the Commission that one of the abutters of the Sewer property has complained that the fence around the sewer plant is collapsing into their yard. Blane would like to get some brush cutting done along the fence and maybe add some new steel posts. McNerney asked about having the borders checked and also asked about whether brush was encroaching at the service building as well. Blane stated yes and that it would not be a bad idea to clear around the service building either.

MOTION was made by P. McNerney to allow C. Blane to address the fence problem and to clear any brush he needed to clear from the property. Motion seconded by S. Draper.

Ayes: 5 (Marthens, McNerney, Draper, Ball and Doyle) Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

10. Discussion and Potential action regarding the service building apartments/liaison.

There has been an ongoing issue with getting apartment keys dropped off at the Sewer Commission Office to be kept in the Superintendents draw for in case of emergencies. T. Chmiel who is in charge of the apartments had not had time to bring an extra set of keys to the office. McNerney and Blane were concerned that if she did not have time for a simple task like this how will she have time to be the liaison for the apartments. It was suggested that the liaison be changed and that it should always be the Sewer Commission Chair who is responsible.

MOTION made by P. McNerney to have whoever is the current Sewer Commission Chair also is the liaison responsible for the apartments.

Motion seconded by S. Draper.

Ayes: 4 (Marthens, McNerney, Draper and Doyle) Nays: 1 (Ball)

Abstains: 0

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPEN FORUM.

11. Commissioners' Announcements.

12. Public Comment for items not on the agenda.

13. Adjournment.

MOTION made to adjourn at 5:56 p.m. by P. McNerney. Motion seconded by B. Marthens.

Aye: 5 (McNerney, Doyle, Ball, Draper, and Chmiel) Nay: 0. Abstain:

0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kara Stinnett

ACCEPTED: 7/18/2016

The New Shoreham Sewer and Water Districts are an equal opportunity provider and employer

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send you completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.