

**TOWN OF NORTH SMITHFIELD, RHODE ISLAND
SEWER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: September 16, 2015

7:04 P.M.

Mr. Houde- The regular meeting of the Town of North Smithfield Sewer Commission (SC) was called to order on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 7:04 P.M. at Kendall Dean School.

1. ROLL CALL

In attendance:

- Mr. Russell Houde, Jr.
- Mr. Thomas Brown
- Mr. DeVivo
- Mr. Devereaux

Maura Beck W&S Coordinator and Russ Carpenter Superintendent also present.

Mr. Winkleman is no longer with the Sewer Commission so Mr. Houde will serve as Vice Chair until elections in January.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Houde, seconded by Mr. Devereaux and voted unanimously on a 4-0 aye vote to accept the minutes for July 15, 2015 and August 19, 2015 meetings.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Houde, and voted on a 3-0 aye vote to go into executive session at 7:07 P.M pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 A (2) Any discussions pertaining to litigation involving Dowling Village Project.

Mr. Devereaux recused himself

MOTION: by Mr. Houde, seconded by Mr. Devereaux and voted unanimously on a 4-0 aye vote to Come out of executive session at 8:05 P.M. and to seal the minutes. No motions were made and no Votes were taken.

4. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT & SEWER COORDINATOR

The grinder pump at 39 Middle Street, FR Mahony pulled the grinder pump out and replaced it again and it went down in six weeks. Their recommendation is to put air gaps in the man hole since they were not design in the project since they believe since it is pumping downhill that is sucking the water out of the grinder pump. Mr. Houde asked if there were any check valves. FR Mahoney took the screw and left the flap open a bit so it will be able to suck the water out, and it went down again. The pump just got replaced again today. 137 Mendon Road, 39 Middle Street, and Green Street they are had call backs regarding the same issue. FR Mahony is recommending installing an air vacuum valve which will be installed either by Mr. Carpenter or a contractor. FR Mahony is not supplying the air vacuum valve they will have to be purchased. Mr. Carpenter wanted to make the SC aware of the recommendations made by FR Mahony. The SC told Mr. Carpenter to proceed as he sees fits.

5. ROCKCLIFF FARMS SEWER ASSESSMENT

Mr. Goodier stated that this item has been on the Agenda for several months. They provided bills concerning the infrastructure. He also gave a brief history of how they also received a credit, and

they were aware that the fees were going to exceed based on the sewer system placed by the town. They are looking for a recommendation from the SC to be made to the Town Council in order to grant them a credit. The initial credit was for \$245,393.31 the client spent \$530,156.00 so the credit they are looking for is \$284,216.69. Mr. Houde stated that Mr. Anthony Cottone was present at the June meeting to discuss this issue and wrote a memorandum with good reason for the SC not to move forward this item and the SC is still relying on that assessment. Mr. Brown questioned the bills that were provided because they are generic and do not specify any details. Mr. DeVivo asked if they had a total of for the infrastructure at that time when the project started. Mr. Goodier did not have that information available with him. Mr. Carpenter stated that the request should have been done sooner especially since they have to start paying for the assessments now.

MOTION by Mr. Houde and seconded by Mr. DeVivo and voted on a 3-0 aye vote to deny the request on the pretense that the memorandum from Mr. Cottone dated June 5, 2015 that this can be referred to the Town Council for further discussion

Mr. Devereaux recused himself

6. **DOWLING VILLAGE SEWER ASSESSMENT APPEALS**

Mr. Chateneauf stated that this item was left over from the last meeting discussion occurred.

Motion: by Mr. Houde seconded by Mr. Devereaux and voted unanimously on a 4-0 aye vote to have Mr. Chateneauf continue with the efforts and have Chateneauf report back at a later meeting.

7. **Dowling Village Project ASSESSOR'S PLAT 13 LOTS 406-411 AND 415 PLAT 21 LOT 26 AND 405 STAY BEING EXTENDED FOR THREE MONTHS**

Mr. Goodier explained they are trying to reach an agreement in respect to the pending appeals. Mr. Goodier requests that the stay be extended three months from today in the hope that they can continue to work together and reach a resolution as soon as possible. Mr. Houde asked if this was taking in account all of the Dowling Village projects not just a few of them. Mr. Goodier believes that these are the ones with the assessments that are seeking to collect at this point. Mr. Goodier believes that the global resolution that will be recommended or trying to work out, will take in consideration projects undeveloped at this point and will be used for different purposes not only commercial but also residential. These are for ones that are developed right now and bills are set and have filed appropriate appeals for those.

Motion: by Mr. Houde and seconded by Mr. DeVivo and voted on a 3-0 aye vote to extend for three months pending resolution of this issue.

Mr. Devereaux recused himself.

8. **ANDREWS TERRACE STATUS UPDATE**

Mr. Carpenter stated the last meeting was cancelled; the residents from Andrews Terrace were present and gave a brief background of what the ongoing issues are. DEM has given them weeks to rectify the situation, either put in a sewer line or come up with a different system. The town is not ready to move forward with phase 2 over in that area. The latest thing is we have water at the end of the street and they might bring up a line up the road and have more flexibility to put a system in.

9. **VEOLIA SEWER LINE CLEANING REPORT**

Maura presented some copies of the pages to the SC the report is too big to make copies for everyone but the report is available at her office to view. Mr. Carpenter has not had an opportunity to look at the report. Mr. carpenter is hoping to get an ok from the town, Finance or a recommendation from the SC to have Mr. Chateneauf review the report and see what the findings are and issues that need to be fixed. This could also bring feedback to the Dowling Village Project as well. Mr. Houde asked that they identified 10 defects and if any cost estimates were provided to repair them? Mr. Carpenter replied that no estimates of cost repair were provided in the report. Mr. Carpenter believes that the findings in the report and coming up with solutions could play an impact on decisions regarding Dowling Village.

Motion: by Mr. Houde and seconded by Mr. Deveraux and voted unanimously on a 4-0 aye vote to have Horsley and Witten review the report and report back at the next regular meeting.

OPEN FORUM- Pursuant RIGL Sec. 42-46-6d

No Discussions

ADJOURN

Motion: by Mr. Houde and seconded by Mr. DeVivo and voted unanimously on a 4-0 aye vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

Prepared by:

Natalia Casper

Sewer Commission Secretary