

**Board of Sewer Commissioners**  
59 East Brookfield Road  
North Brookfield, MA 01535

**Meeting Minutes**  
August 17, 2015

Present:

Charles Haddock, Chairman  
Donald E. Smith  
John Farmer, Clerk  
Rodney Jenkins, Sewer Superintendent  
Laurie Lapierre-Recording Secretary

The Town of North Brookfield Sewer Commissioners Meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

**1. Discuss and accept minutes from July 13, 2015.**

Mr. Farmer made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Smith seconded the motion; all were in favor, approved.

**2. Superintendent Report.**

- We have 2 round clarifiers in which the mechanical arm will skim the grease and it goes into a chamber. It was not pumping. We replaced the broken valve. We had to chain hoist approx. 20' of cast iron pipe. Mr. Dumont was also hired to assist. The pipe was packed with grease and debris. Ten five gallon pails of debris/grease was pulled from the pipe.
- It has been 8 years since the empty polymer drums were picked up. The trailer was in today to pick up 31 drums.
- A die test was conducted for the potential buyer of 304 North Main Street. The water was shut off and we brought in the water. We were able to locate where the toilets discharged to. The 2" drain does discharge onto Grove Street. We were able to locate where one of the two drains discharged. The main 4" drain heading out the front did not pass into either North Main or Grove Street. The worry about purchasing foreclosed homes is that if they sit too long with debris in the pipe it hardens and therefore plugs the line. The buyer will wait until he can fix the internal plumbing to conduct additional investigations.

**3. Update video inspection project.**

Mr. Jenkins stated he is working on the list. Mr. Jenkins also pointed out that the Highway Dept. has been raising manholes on the streets they are preparing to pave.

Rocks and debris can enter the manhole and plug the pipes as we have seen in the past. Mr. Jenkins has spoken with Todd and they are careful to remove paving rocks from the inlet when they fall. Mr. Jenkins stated he is going to speak with Gary Jean in respect to having the lines cleaned after the completion of the project.

**4. Discuss proposed addendum for septage receiving.**

Mr. Jenkins stated that we have haulers who have a hard time over the winter but some who continually carry balances throughout the year. It becomes an administrative nightmare. As a means of trying to curb these behaviors, effective Oct. 1, 2015 invoices will be due 30 days postmarked from the date of the invoice issued. Any unpaid past due balance will be subject to interest at 14% per annum. Unpaid balances will also be subject to a \$20.00 administrative fee, to be invoiced each month for any unpaid balance. Mr. Farmer made a motion to accept the addendum as written. Mr. Smith seconded the motion; all were in favor, approved.

**5. Review and sign bills and payroll.**

The bills and payroll were reviewed and signed.

**6. Sign any abatements, commitments if necessary.**

The Commissioners signed off on the following abatements:

1. School Street Realty	37.6% Evaporation	Abatement Amt.	\$4,078.16
2. Lewandowski	Outside metered water use	Abatement Amt.	55.25
3. Police Dept.	Outside metered water use	Abatement Amt.	13.97

**7. Discuss tie-in fee for second property.**

Wentworth Farm, the second largest producer of Maple Syrup in Massachusetts, is looking into putting a two bedroom trailer in the back to use as a rental for those interested in learning about farming/maple syrup. Mr. Wentworth is looking to run a line from the trailer and connect directly into the sewer. He was wondering what the connection fee would be.

Mr. Jenkins stated that the schedule of fees state that for multiple families it is \$5,000 the first housing unit and \$2,000 for each additional housing unit. Commercial and Industrial are charged \$7,000 plus \$2,000 for each additional connection.

In reviewing the Rules and Regs it was agreed that should Mr. Wentworth decide to put up the trailer, a \$2,000 tie-in fee would be charged.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Jenkins notified the Board that Union Negotiations have begun. He was unaware as was Mrs. Lapierre that his presence was required at the last meeting. Mr. Jenkins stated he will be attending the September meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Lapierre  
Recording Secretary