

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

Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2016

Present:

Donald E. Smith, Vice Chairman
John Farmer, Clerk
Rodney Jenkins, Sewer Superintendent

The Town of North Brookfield Sewer Commissioners Meeting was called to order at 3:38 p.m.

1. Discuss and accept minutes from February 8, 2016.

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

2. Superintendent Report.

Mr. Jenkins updated the Board about the bizarre failure of all three 50 hp VFD's for the aeration blowers. One new AC-Tech blower was installed the first night and we are responsible for the cost. AC-Tech Corp warranted and repaired two other drives at no cost. We now have one extra.

Mr. Jenkins reported that we are having problems with the belt drive on the belt filter press and he is working with Troy Brown to diagnose the source of the problem. He said the belt shuts off with no warning, making it impossible to leave the room while running the unit.

Mr. Jenkins reported that Verizon drilled through a service line at 48 Forest St. Unfortunately, we are responsible for the wrong guess as to where the service was located. Ray Barnes Excavation repaired the break in four hours. We will have to fix the sidewalk in the near future.

3. Discuss/sign revised Sewer Use Regulations and Addendums #1A,3A,4A, 5 and 6.

Mr. Jenkins said he had gone through these regulations and made a few corrections/additions. All were agreed to. Mr. Jenkins said he thought we should have copies of signed Regulations and Addendums on file, which apparently have gotten lost in the shuffle. Mr. Smith and Mr. Farmer signed and suggested we have Mr. Haddock do the same at a future date.

4. Sign bills, payroll and any commitments/abatements.

Bills and payroll were signed with no discussion. A house closing commitment for 42 Bell Street was also signed.

5. Update status of FY 16 budget.

Mr. Jenkins informed the Board that he is projecting less than \$4,000 surplus in the expense account and that is if there are no other unanticipated expenses. He asked the Selectmen's office if there was going to be a special town meeting before the annual in May. He was told no. Mr. Jenkins said that Leslie Burton said if need be he could fill out a "yellow sheet". Mr. Jenkins said he was not clear on what that means but he decided that if things don't work out we might be able to transfer money at the June meeting.

6. Discuss Capital Request Form (s).

Mr. Jenkins reminded the Board that he e-mailed his proposed Capital Requests to the proper authorities. He included the need for a new F-150 type pick-up truck. Mr. Jenkins said the 2004 F-150 is showing considerable rust on the body and frame and probably is not worth sinking money into it. Mr. Farmer asked how many miles on the truck. Mr. Jenkins said about 140,000. Mr. Farmer agreed that it's probably not worth putting money into it but we should hang on to it for the time being. Mr. Jenkins said he also put a ballpark figure of \$900,000 to \$1,000,000 for upgrades to the Wastewater Facility to comply with possible orders from the DEP and EPA. He said it's too early to say what may be needed.

7. Discuss change to FY17 Budget.

Mr. Jenkins informed the Board of his proposed change to the FY17 budget that was turned in back in February. He said he felt this year's budget problems will carry over to next year so he proposed a \$5,000 increase to the expense account and a \$5,000 increase in septage revenue. Mr. Jenkins said that this will make the FY17 budget only \$400 higher than last year. Mr. Farmer made a motion to accept the new budget proposal as written, Mr. Smith seconded the motion; all were in favor, approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Jenkins announced that the Town is receiving \$572.95 in Sewer Rate Relief Fund money from the State.

The meeting adjourned at 4:37p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rodney Jenkins, Superintendent

