



## TOWN OF WINCHESTER – CITY OF WINSTED

Town Hall – 338 Main Street

WINSTED, CONNECTICUT 06098

### *Minutes of Special Meeting Water & Sewer Commission*

*P. Francis Hicks Room, Town Hall, 338 Main Street, Winsted  
August 25, 2020*

Chairman John Massicotte called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. The following members were present: George Closson, Bill Hester, Joe Lemelin, John Massicotte and Tim Moran. Also present was Finance Director Bruce Stratford, Director of Public Works Jim Rollins, Consultant/Project Manager Steve Vaill and Barkhamsted First Selectman Don Stein. This meeting respected all social distancing rules and attendees were well-situated throughout the meeting in the meeting room.

**Public Input:** Mr. Stein stated the drawings are basically ready; Exhibit B has to be adopted; agreement does not state laterals have to be installed; requiring installation of laterals is a costly imposition; the lines are being installed to Winsted at no charge; increases property values; provides a better option for current property owners if their septic is failing; 2 pipes are being installed; looking for nodding of heads that laterals will not be required; can bore under the road instead of digging up the roads for future hook-up to homes; looking for some sense from the Commission on the laterals and pipes; future homeowners would pay for the lateral and sewer pipe. Chairman Massicotte said his understanding is the laterals would be installed at the same time as the pipes; the Board does have to approve the design. Discussion followed regarding designation of building lots, additional cost of the laterals, little impact to the road doing it later, no cost to Winsted, previous agreement had Winsted customers paying the cost of the laterals, cost of the sewer system installation, benefits both Winsted and Barkhamsted, etc. Mr. Stein said it's unfair to expect homeowners to have this cost with no need for those services; when needed, laterals would be installed and the cost charged to them. Mr. Rollins reminded attendees this was not an agenda item; this is food for thought. Mr. Stein offered to email the documents to the Chairman to allow him to share the information.

**Discussion and Vote on Sewer Budget for 2020-2021:** Mr. Stratford distributed copies of the proposed 2020-2021 Sewer Fund budget and a worksheet detailing proposed Capital projects (Fund 123 Appropriations); explained the last column on the proposed budget represents changes from the Manager's column; noted the revenues and expenditures balance at \$1,998,000; line 780 of revenues has \$20,000 more than suggested for contributions toward Capital projects; difference is reflected in line 317-875 transfer to Fund 123 CIP which increased from a proposal of \$161,000 at the last meeting to \$181,000 by Mr. Rollins; reiterated revenues and expenditures are in balance so the Board can approve it tonight. Discussion followed regarding projects included in the Capital, primary tank project was postponed, Moore Avenue pump station was removed, amount in savings, accrued vacation and sick time, etc. S. Vaill asked about the reduction to the electricity line. Mr. Stratford explained the actual cost was only \$117,000 with one more bill coming but it should still be less than \$130,000. Additional discussion followed regarding sick and vacation pay accrual, pension amounts, newer employees not eligible for the retirement plan, numbers were provided by the actuaries, replacement pick-up truck, rotating equipment, etc. **Motion** by G. Closson to **approve the 2020-2021 Sewer Budget**. Second by J. Lemelin. *Discussion:* Mr. Stratford noted it should be reflected that

Revenues are proposed at \$1,998,000 and Expenditures are proposed at \$1,998,000. **Vote:** All in favor - *motion carried unanimous.*

**Discussion and Action on Bid Waivers Presented:** Mr. Rollins explained pipe amounts quoted for the Brookside Avenue project exceeded the \$10,000 amount budgeted; contacted three vendors for prices: Water Sewer Specialties \$17,000, Target Enterprises \$16,700 and GL Waterworks \$15,300; looking to take the lowest; like we did on Pump Station 8 and Overlook, P&G Pepper is available for one last project; agreed to hold the prices for the Brookside project; don't expect it to exceed \$15,000 but would like a bid waiver just in case. Discussion followed regarding won't exceed the \$125,000 budgeted for Brookside. GL Waterworks was highly recommended, costs from P&G Pepper, etc. **Motion** by T. Moran to *accept the low bid from GL Waterworks of \$15,300 and raise the amount for P&G Pepper from \$10,000 to an amount not to exceed \$15,000.* Second by J. Lemelin. *Discussion:* Discussion followed regarding timelines for the projects, preparation work is done, project is ready to go, scope of work, etc. **Vote:** All in favor - *motion carried unanimous.*

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned 6:30 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

Laurie Bessette  
Minutes Secretary

**Next Regular Meeting:**

Town Hall, 338 Main Street  
**Tuesday, September 8, 2020 @6:00 p.m.**