



## TOWN OF WINCHESTER – CITY OF WINSTED

Town Hall – 338 Main Street

WINSTED, CONNECTICUT 06098

### *Minutes of Regular Meeting Water & Sewer Commission Probate Conference Room, Town Hall, 338 Main Street, Winsted October 8, 2019*

Chairman John Massicotte called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Bill Hester, Joe Lemelin, John Massicotte and George Closson. Also present were Director of Public Works Jim Rollins and Superintendent of Water Works Marty Cormier. Tim Moran was absent excused.

**Public Input** – NONE

**Approval of Regular Minutes from September 10, 2019: Motion** by J Lemelin to *approve the minutes of September 10, 2019*. Second by B Hester. **Vote:** All in favor - *motion carried unanimous*.

**Barkhamsted Line Extensions & Interlocal Agreement:** J Rollins explained that the hydraulic analysis conducted showed the quads are in good shape. Their contact is ready to draft a plan, but more research needs to be conducted. Barkhamsted must build their lines to the standards of the public works department. More information is needed. Ongoing.

#### **Report from Finance Director:**

- Finance has opened a new account at Northwest Community Bank. They have a better interest rate and more insurance coverage. B Stratford asked to move the money from the Webster account to the new NWCB account.
- **Motion** by J Lemelin to *move the funds in the water and sewer accounts from Webster bank to Northwest Community Bank*. Second by B Hester. **Vote:** All in favor - *motion carried unanimous*
- B Stratford put forward the current numbers in the water and sewer accounts. The current budget numbers are in line with last year, same collection and billing. However, the rates have risen over the past three years, but overall revenue has dropped. As the sewer account has debts, they are paying toward the balance is falling far short of the water account. From his analysis raising the rates will not bring in more revenue. \
- Some discussion followed on how to address the problem. Combine the bills into one? Switch to monthly billing? Offer Auto pay? Are there any similarities between delinquent accounts?

**Water & Sewer Rate Increase 2019-2020: Tabled.**

**Billing Issues Tax Collector and Finance Director:** No Discussion

**2019-2020 Sewer Budget:**

**PO to Cardinal Engineering for Bridge Repair at Sewer Plant:** Moving forward with the payment.

**Sewer Plant Blower #3:** Blower #3 is up and running. Two blowers are currently running. They will rewire the extra blower so that the sewer plant has a backup.

**Update on Pump Station 8:** All set. Should be operational by next meeting.

**Bill Adjustments:** NONE

**Director's Report:**

- DPW is applying for USDA funding. It is a complicated application; they need a lot of people on board. J Rollins is working on the application.
- Shane at the water department passed class 4.
- DPW will get smoke test results back in the Spring

**Old Business:**

- Bridge Inspection at Sewer Plant complete; waiting for Report: Mr. Rollins said this is all set.
- Overlook Water Main: Residents are overjoyed. Project complete. P & G Pepper did the project, very happy with their work.
- Wallens Hill Water Tank: No Discussion
- Crystal Lake Dam Historical Review Submitted – No update
- Crystal lake tank – water tank Spalling resume in September? – No Answer yet. J Rollins wanted to start Spalling on Oct 10 but are still wanting on a response from the company. They have a backup plan if it cannot happen.
- Update water regulations to accept use of high-density polyethylene – No discussion
- Tree harvesting/Housatonic Valley Watershed Association offer – No discussion
- Delivery of new truck September: Water and Sewer department is purchasing a new Vac Truck from Sewer Equipment Co of America. It is a 10- or 11-month build. Waiting for a complete estimate and financing options. They have a buyer for the old truck, McDermot. They will get the freightliner chase from a local vendor.

**New Business:**

- Alex at the sewer plant no longer has the time to do the analyzing himself. They have subbed it out and no longer need their analyzer. They want to trade it for six months of sewer testing. This cost savings will allow the sewer plant to buy a generator. **Motion** by B Hester to *accept the trade of the analyzer for six months of testing*. Second by G Closson. **Vote:** All in favor - *motion carried unanimous*.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by G Closson, seconded by B Hester. Meeting adjourned 8:48 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Caitlyn McSherry  
(Substitute) Minutes Secretary

**Next Regular Meeting:**  
Probate Room  
**Tuesday, November 5, 2019**  
7:00 p.m.