

JOINT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
NEW SHOREHAM SEWER COMMISSION and BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

June 8, 2007 Minutes

Present were members Frank Leslie, Cliff McGinnes, Rally Migliaccio, Howie Rice, Don Thimble and District Clerk Janet Ziegler.

Absent were members Ann Cunningham and Steve McQueeny.

Also present were Public Works Director Nancy Dodge, Finance Director Amy Lewis, Sewer Superintendent Ray Boucher and Counsel Elliot Taubman.

Absent was Water Superintendent Dave Simmons.

R. Migliaccio called the meeting to order at 3:37 P.M.

MOTION: by R. Migliaccio to delay the start of the Public Hearings until the Sewer Chair C. McGinnes, who is in transit to the meeting, arrives. The motion was seconded, a quorum was present and the vote to delay was:

AYE: 3 (Migliaccio, Rice, Thimble). NAY: Ø. ABSTAIN: Ø.

The motion carried.

The Commission/Board took a break from the table.

C. McGinnes arrived at 4:10 PM

MOTION: by R. Migliaccio to reconvene the meeting. The motion was seconded and all members voted unanimously to proceed with the meeting.

F. Leslie arrived at 4:13 PM

1. PUBLIC HEARING

ADOPT FY 2008 BUDGETS FOR NEW SHOREHAM WATER DISTRICT.

C. McGinnes reviewed the budgeted revenues and expenditures.

In an e-mail addressed to the Commissioners, Water Superintendent D. Simmons recommended a five percent (5%) wage increase for all water operators, which was more in line with raises for sewer operators. A three percent (3%) increase was reflected in the budget being presented to the public. A. Lewis responded that she was aware of the request and had prepared alternate numbers to balance the budget and support the 5% increase.

MOTION: by H. Rice to award a five-percent (5%) increase to all water operators. The motion was seconded, a quorum was present and the vote was:

AYE: 4 (Leslie, McGinnes, Migliaccio, Rice). NAY: 1 (Thimble) ABSTAIN: Ø.

The motion carried.

H. Rice left the meeting at 4:20 PM.

Other expenditures in the Water Budget were reviewed. Responding to a question from a previous meeting as to why there was a seventy percent (70%) increase in cost of services provided by finance and public works, A. Lewis distributed what she called a rough draft of the work provided by her office and the Director of Public Works. C. McGinnes said that the Commission would, in the future, appreciate forthrightness from Finance and Public Works – the increase was a revenue item in the Town Budget presented in April, yet this information had to be requested by the Commission/Board and this was the first discussion regarding the changes. The Chair said that the Commission and Board expected candor and directness from the two offices.

Water's Capital Budget was reviewed. Answering a question about purchasing a new vehicle, A. Lewis said that the auto may be covered by grant funds; however, the Water District was also in the position this year to directly absorb the costs of a new vehicle, a surplus is expected at year's end.

Water District Debt Service Statement. A. Lewis stated the USDA loan list is getting longer and that she expects USDA to ask for a pay down of debt service, like they did for sewer last year.

MOTION: by D. Thimble to adopt with changes, the FY 2008 Water Budget for posting. The motion was seconded, a quorum was present and the vote to post was:

AYE: 4 (Leslie, McGinnes, Migliaccio, Thimble). NAY: Ø. ABSTAIN: Ø.

The motion carried.

2. PUBLIC HEARING

ADOPT FY 2008 BUDGETS FOR NEW SHOREHAM SEWER DISTRICT.

R. Boucher reviewed revenues lines. 'Septic Waste Disposal' is supported by activity in the Town's Wastewater Management Program and 'Boat Pumpout' revenue is down 7.7%, reflecting a more realistic figure. There will be further changes in the 'Water Contract' and 'Contribution from Reserve's due to changes in the wage line. In Expenses, 'System Maintenance' line is retained so that the remaining manholes can be refurbished this year. RI Department of Transportation will rehab manholes on Water and Dodge Street in the fall and Miozzi has completed all those on High Street.

N. Dodge was requested to expedite an invoice from Sprague Farm, for construction work at the parking lot, before the current fiscal year ends.

In the Capital Budget; money from the 2001 USDA grant is going for plant process modification .

Sewer District Debt Service Statement. A. Lewis stated that last year the Commission voted to pay off a lot of debt, the new 2006 USDA loan closed on May 30 at a very low 4.125% rate.

MOTION: by D. Thimble to adopt with changes the FY 2008 Sewer Budget for posting. The motion was seconded, a quorum was present and the vote to post was:

AYE: 4 (Leslie, McGinnes, Migliaccio, Thimble). NAY: Ø. ABSTAIN: Ø.

The motion carried.

3. New Business, Public Comment.

Personnel: Act on Posting for Sewer Employee. R. Boucher recommended that the Commission hire Paul Miro, one of three applicants, to begin June 12.

MOTION: by D. Thimble to hire Paul Miro as a sewer operator in training, based on the recommendation of the superintendent and subject to passing a physical, drug testing and background check. The motion was seconded and all members vote unanimously to hire. N. Dodge will start the process for the new employee.

Adjourn.

MOTION: by D. Thimble to adjourn the meeting and that the time period for the filing of the minutes be extended to 75 days from today's date. The motion was seconded, a quorum was present and the vote to adjourn was approved unanimously by all members present.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Ziegler, District Clerk
Approved: July 17, 2007

The New Shoreham Sewer Commission and Water Board are equal opportunity providers and employers.