

**Brandon Board of Sewer Commissioners
April 8, 2013**

NOTE: These are unapproved minutes, subject to amendment and/or approval at the subsequent Board meeting.

In Attendance: Devon Fuller, Dave Atherton, Richard Baker, Ethan Swift

Also In Attendance: Chris Brickell, Wayne Rausenberger, Kathleen Rausenberger, Allan Leavitt, George Reilly, Richard Kirby, Anna Scheck, George Wetmore, Ray Counter, Bill Dick, Norm Milot, Bernie Carr, Jeff Stewart, Janet Mondlak, Dolores Furnari, Brian Fillioe, Steve Beck, Brian Sanderson, Nancy Meffe, Gary Meffe, Tecouri Shuman

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Chair – Devon Fuller.

a) Agenda Adoption – Motion by Ethan Swift/Richard Baker to adopt the agenda as presented. **The motion passed unanimously – 3 to zero.**

2. Consent Agenda

a) Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2013 - Minutes of the Board of Sewer Commissioners Meeting

Motion by Ethan Swift/Dave Atherton to approve the Board of Sewer Commissioners minutes of March 11, 2013. **The motion passed unanimously – 3 to zero.**

3. Fiscal

a) Warrant – April 8, 2013 – Sewer Expense Note Payoff - \$65,108.74

Motion by Richard Baker/Dave Atherton to approve the warrant in the amount of \$65,108.74 for payoff of the sewer expense note. **The motion passed unanimously – 3 to zero.**

Ethan Swift requested clarification of the payoff and the request for approval of a new loan for the same amount. Bill Dick stated this is a recurring loan that was as high as \$80,000.00 at one point. Mr. Dick obtained rates for the current amount, though he thought there should be an effort to pay it down further.

b) Consider Current Sewer Expense Note Renewal

Motion by Richard Baker/Ethan Swift to approve the current sewer expense note renewal in the amount of \$60,000.00 with Lake Sunapee Bank with an interest rate of 1.31 % interest. **The motion passed unanimously – 3 to zero.**

Richard Baker stated the \$5,000.00 difference would be the pay down on the note.

c) Consider Sewer Adjustment Policy

Motion by Ethan Swift /Dave Atherton to consider the Sewer Adjustment Policy as presented.

Ethan Swift questioned if there is an ongoing need for this type of request. Devon Fuller advised there is not a current policy to deal with these types of requests. Ms. Scheck has developed this for people who feel they have been overcharged for a sewer fee, such as water line breaks, for filling swimming pools or items of this nature. Currently waste water is based on water usage, however in these instances; the water does not go to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Anna Scheck stated this is a very basic document and she feels the Town should have something in writing. Devon Fuller stated people will need to be educated about the process, with checking their meter prior to filling the pool and immediately following. Ms. Scheck stated something should go out with the next billing advising people of the process. Ethan Swift stated if people are properly draining the pools, the water should go back through the sewer system and he is concerned the Town is subsidizing people that have pools. Richard Baker stated it would be appropriate to table this item for discussion at another meeting.

Motion by Richard Baker/Ethan Swift to table the discussion of the Sewer Adjustment Policy to a subsequent meeting. **The motion passed unanimously – 3 to zero.**

Ethan Swift stated that unusual instances can be determined by reviewing an individual's water billing history.

d) Consider Abatement of Sewer Charges

Ethan Swift questioned what happens in the winter to the circulating pond outlined in this request and it was noted that the pond is drained down. Anna Scheck advised the owner that they could not go back 10 years and would have to bring their request to the Sewer Commission. The 10,000 gallons is the amount increased from the previous readings. Mr. Swift asked if these types of uses are being subsidized not knowing whether it is properly maintained. Anna Scheck stated people do not feel they should be paying for sewer use, when it is not going to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Swift stated if it has chlorine in and is drained properly, it should be going to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Dave Atherton agreed with Ethan Swift on this issue and he does not feel that waivers should be given. Mr. Swift stated there are companies that deliver water. Mr. Atherton stated it is also a big burden on the pumps and creates wear and tear on them when people are filling items like this. There could be more repairs in the long run due to these instances. Ray Counter stated the Select Board needs to decide what their policy should be. If the readings from the Fire District are going to be used, the Board needs to determine whether exceptions are going to be made. When a request is received, Anna Scheck contacts Mr. Counter and it takes time to address those items and there is a cost to the Town to make those adjustments. It was questioned if a second meter is going to be installed at this address. Mr. Counter stated it is not the responsibility of the Fire District to make those determinations. Devon Fuller stated a process should be developed to address issues of leakage. Mr. Swift agreed there should be a process for abatement. Richard Baker stated the billings for this property have been consistent and asked why there is now a request to abate 10,000 gallons.

The Board did not wish to abate the sewer charges and noted the owner was welcome to attend a subsequent meeting to discuss this matter further.

5. Old/Other Business

There was no discussion held.

6. Possible Executive Session

There was no Executive Session held.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Richard Baker/Dave Atherton to adjourn the Board of Sewer Commissioners meeting at 7:25PM. **The motion passed unanimously - 3 to zero.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bryant
Recording Secretary