

Brandon Board of Sewer Commissioners Meeting January 13, 2020

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

In Attendance: Seth Hopkins, Brian Coolidge, Tracy Wyman, Tim Guiles, Doug Bailey

Others In Attendance: Dave Atherton

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:51PM by Seth Hopkins – Chair.

a. Agenda Adoption

Motion by Tracy Wyman/Brian Coolidge to adopt the agenda as presented. **The motion passed unanimously.**

2. Consent Agenda

a) Minutes of Board of Sewer Commissioners of July 8, 2019

Motion by Tracy Wyman/Brian Coolidge to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019 Board of Sewer Commissioners meeting. **The motion passed with one abstention – Doug Bailey.**

3. Pump Station Discussion

Dave Atherton advised there are three pump stations the Town had acquired; the Neshobe House station was deeded to the Town, the station near the Country Club Condos, and the Brookdale Mobile Home Park station. There have been issues with individual pump stations that are getting clogged up with items that are creating havoc. There has been a request from the Wastewater Department to determine if the stations can be given back to the entities. The Select Board had previously voted to take the Country Club and Brookdale stations when Bruce Rounds was the Director. Mr. Atherton noted the Sewer Ordinance does not have a signed effective date and has had many amendments that go back to 1987. The pump stations noted were acquired after 1987 and there had been an issue with the Neshobe House that is owned by the Vermont State Housing Authority. Mr. Atherton has advised them that something needs to be done to resolve the problems they are having with this station and has scheduled a meeting for next week. The Country Club Condo pump station has electrical problems and has cost the Town a lot of money and noted there have been similar problems with Brookdale Mobile Home Park. Tim Guiles asked if there is a procedure for fining a person for putting something in the sewer that should not be there. Mr. Atherton advised these are on private property and he has talked to the Town's attorney with regard to liability. The way the ordinance is written the Town is responsible for the main line and the property owners are responsible for the laterals. Mr. Atherton stated the Town

can ask the entities to take the ones back that have not been deeded to the Town. Mr. Atherton noted when there are issues with these pump stations, it is costing all users money as the pumps are expensive. There are pump stations on Newton Road, Champlain Street, Carver Street and another one that are on public property. Mr. Atherton advised the pump stations are running now but wanted to bring this issue to the Board's attention. Mr. Atherton will do more research on this subject and advise the Board. The Town is incurring costs and the Condo Association should pay for the expenses, as it is not right for all of the sewer users to pay for properties with forced mains. Mr. Guiles suggested part of the solution should be an education campaign to assure that people know what to do with the sewer system. Mr. Atherton suggested scheduling a meeting with the landowners to discuss this item. Seth Hopkins thanked the Town Manager for identifying the problems and bringing possible solutions to the Sewer Board.

4. Adjournment

Motion by Doug Bailey/Brian Coolidge to adjourn the Board of Sewer Commissioners' meeting at 8:01PM. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bryant
Recording Secretary