



Town of Rockland

SEWER COMMISSION

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Walter Simmons, *Chairman*
Charles Heshion, *Commissioner*
David P. Taylor, *Interim Superintendent*

Remote Teleconference
Recorded for Public Playback on WRPS
(local cable access tv)
www.wrpsrockland.com

Rockland Sewer Commissioners Meeting
March 25, 2021

In Attendance: Walter Simmons, Charles Heshion, David Taylor, Robyn Day, Erik Schoumaker and Bradley McKenzie of McKenzie Engineering Group, Rick Kotouch, Ed McAuliffe and Stacy Callahan

Motion made by Chuck Heshion, 2nd by Walter Simmons, to begin the meeting at 4:00 pm. All in favor 2-0.

Introductory Remarks

Walter Simmons, Chairman.

Motion made by Walter Simmons, 2nd by Chuck Heshion, to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. All in favor 2-0.

Present New Moratorium Conditions

Discussion on this matter is tabled to next meeting.

Motion made by Chuck Heshion, 2nd by Walter Simmons, to table discussion of the New Moratorium until the next meeting. All in favor 2-0.

Dyer Street – Proposed Development

They are proposing to install an 8" PVC main on Dyer Street to service (2) duplexes and multi-family buildings. Projected water usage is 4,730 gallons per day.

David Taylor suggests a grinder pump be installed by the developer on the site. Grinder pump requirements were voted on and added to the Sewer Ordinance this past year.

The developer is requesting a letter of approval within the next 2-3 weeks, verifying the fees and approving the project.

Chuck to review the hard copy plans at the Sewer Department on Friday. David Taylor to forward fee structure to the Commissioners.

Motion made by Chuck Heshion to table the approval for (2) weeks. All in favor 2-0.

Comprehensive Study Update

Wright-Pierce has provided an Executive Summary.

Suez would like an opportunity to share their ideas with Wright-Pierce as they have some concerns with the Wright-Pierce draft. Chuck has some questions for Wright-Pierce as well.

Chuck's preference for construction is a window of 5-8 years; Wright-Pierce would like to do the construction in 2 years.

Chuck proposes to set up a meeting with Wright-Pierce, Suez and himself for the middle of April.

The Electrical Inspector from the Town of Rockland will inspect the Sewer Plant next week. Chuck wants to ensure that there is no liability issue with the Town of Rockland.

Spread out engineering from CWMP over 4-5 years.

Sewer System Evaluation Study (SSES) Update – AE/com

National Water main has been conducting flow isolation testing at night through-out the town. Suez has been overseeing the night crews. Next week (week 5) is the last of the testing. Week 6 will begin the camera portion of the project.

Pond Street was done in 2008; we did this area again though because David found through his role with Highway that French Road has fractures and breaks in the road, which usually indicate that there might be breaks in the sewer as well.

Butternut and Norman were tested and they will begin with the camera soon. Manzella, Wyman Field, Belmont, Pacific and Division are problem areas for infiltration that we've been vacuuming and jetting.

Lincoln and Forest were not in the original scope, so Mill Brook was taken out and Lincoln and Forest were added. Working on having Leisurewoods added, as well.

Police details are paid out of the general I&I account, not the I&I Article. Vacuuming and jetting are also paid out of the general I&I account. Article funds are reserved for engineering and assessment.

Superintendent Update

Lots of requests for mark-outs for dig safe and construction projects. Grease traps inspections are all going well in the early am.

The AE/com I&I project has identified heavy wipes, grease and clogs; we have been vacuuming and jetting those areas.

EPA Update – Nothing has changed since the March 10th memo that David Taylor sent to the Commissioners.

EPA contacted us. There is a new agent assigned to our area. He requested, and we forwarded, reports from 2015-2021.

Rick Kotouch has not heard anything new from David Burns of the EPA, other than they plan on visiting us once we hire a new Superintendent.

Suez Update

Digester boiler – Hallam Engineering received approval from the State of MA on the UL issue. Hallam's proposal should be ready by mid-April to put out for bid (projected to be about \$30k). Wright-Pierce is suggesting that we abandon the digester boiler, although Suez and National Grid disagree.

Ordered back-up pump for Hingham Street South pumping station. 4-5 month lead-time for the order to be filled as the pump is built to order.

Butternut station – working on an engineering quote to convert the station from and injector station to a pumping station. (\$50k+). Funding for the structure can come from I&I and R&M. Also Suez can buy the mechanicals and equipment directly themselves, although not required in their contract. We have funds put aside from last year's Article to cover this project. If we have development in that area, they could share some of the cost. Rick is expecting to have the work done over the summer.

Spruce station is on hold for now – hopefully can be done within 2 years. Whatever solution we use for Butternut will be exactly the same for Spruce.

National Grid – working on an energy project with National Grid over the past 2 years regarding our aeration system. National Grid is offering many incentives and may pay for some of the costs of our upgrade. 50% of our energy is with our aeration system and new construction qualifies for the incentives. Rick is hopeful that we will qualify for the incentives especially if we can show the savings in KW hours.

Half of the Suez staff at the plant has been vaccinated. Still social distancing and wearing masks.

Superintendent Vote

After a brief discussion, the Commissioners agree to table the discussion.

Motion made by Chuck Heshion, 2nd by Walter Simmons, to table the discussion until the next meeting. All in favor 2-0.

Motion made by Walter Simmons, 2nd by Chuck Heshion, to adjourn at 4:50 pm. All in favor 2-0.

These minutes are a brief synopsis of discussions that occurred during the meeting. For more in-depth information, please refer to the meeting video on <https://www.youtube.com/WRPSRockland>

