

## Town of Hingham



# Hingham Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2018

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. in the South Hearing Room, Hingham Town Hall.

### **Commissioners Present:**

Kirk Shilts, Chairman; Robert Higgins and Stephen Harold.

### **Department Personnel & Staff Present:**

Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent; Stephen Dempsey, Sewer Supervisor; Liz Welch, DPW Office Administrator.

### **Agenda:**

The Commission reviewed the posted agenda.

**Mr. Higgins made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Harold, to approve the agenda as posted; the Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Dr. Shilts stated there was one minor grammatical error in the minutes which needs to be corrected.

**Mr. Higgins made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Harold, to approve the March 20, 2018 minutes as amended; the Motion was passed by unanimous vote.**

### **FY2018 Sewer Rate - Vote:**

Ms. Welch explained that the FY2018 Sewer Rate has been calculated based on actual expenses from FY2017 and projected expenses from FY2018. The rate will remain the same for FY2018 at \$9.90 per 100 cubic feet.

**Mr. Harold made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Higgins, to approve the FY2018 Sewer Rate of \$9.90 per 100 cubic feet for the Hingham Sewer District and the Weir River Sewer District; the Motion was passed by unanimous vote.**

### **DPW Superintendent / Supervisor Reports**

Mr. Dempsey reported that on April 2, 2018 at 5:00pm he received a call from commuter stating that water was bubbling out of the road at 211 Lincoln Street (Rt. 3A). After going to the site it was determined to be

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sewerage. He called his crew in as well as National Water Main and the DEP. The pumps were then shut down and the water main was flushed. It was determined to be a coupling that was rotting out about 7 or 8 feet down. They had three 4,000 gallon trucks pumping to take away and put in the Nitesoil Building for 6 hours. This took place between 5:00pm and 10:30am. Mr. Dempsey noted that there has been 11 breaks in in 20 years in that area mostly between 207 – 211 Lincoln Street. Mr. Sylvester explained that this is why we are going to be rerouting the force main. Mr. Dempsey will now get estimates on cameraing and lining the main.

Mr. Sylvester explained that he has not yet heard back from Hull regarding the 30% increase in the sewer rate.

Mr. Sylvester explained that the NPSDES drainage permit is a 5 year permit and we are now in year 15 year. This is an EPA permit that the Mass DEP oversees. There is a new criteria that will force us to do things we haven't been doing. We inspected all the pipes for the whole system once and now we have to do it on a biannual basis and there are tests we have to do. Towns have objected it so it is still in a court case right now. Mr. Sylvester is moving forward with the new permit year and the NOI that has to be submitted.

### **Sewer Abatements:**

The Sewer Commission reviewed sewer bill abatements from resident of 26 Summer Street.

**Mr. Higgins made a Motion, seconded by Mr. Harold to approve the submitted abatement for 26 Summer Street for \$554.40, the Motion was passed by unanimous vote.**

### **Scheduling:**

The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Welch,  
DPW Office Administrator

### **Documents reviewed during public meeting:**

- Meeting agenda 4/10/18
- Draft minutes 3/20/18