

Town of Hingham



Hingham Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2023

Call to Order

Mr. Frazier called the public meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Members Present

Clarke Frazier, chair; Kirk Shilts & James Byrne

Staff Present

Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent; Steve Dempsey, Sewer Supervisor; Liz Welch, DPW Office Manager; and Matt Cahill, DPW Assistant Superintendent

Operations Report/ North Street Force Main Break Status

Mr. Dempsey went over the timeline of the North Street force main break that occurred on Monday, 9/4/23. He explained that this is the 2nd force main break in two-years as the last one was in February 2021. This force main is nearing the end of its life.

Mr. Frazier stated that we should have Weston & Sampson take a look at this force main and give us a report on its condition.

Mr. Sylvester stated that we should find out what it would cost first and then we could talk about it.

Sewer Commission Consolidation Agreement with the Town of Hingham

Mr. Frazier stated that he received an email from Town Administrator Tom Mayo this afternoon. He spoke to him and Mr. Mayo requested that the Commission appoint a liaison to meet with him and the Select Board liaison, Bill Ramsey, to discuss any potential changes to the Consolidation Agreement.

Dr. Shilts believes that each year we should talk about the Consolidation Agreement, which renews each October. He believes the entire Commission should meet with Mr. Mayo. Mr. Byrne agreed.

Dr. Shilts stated that talking to staff about how the Consolidation Agreement is working, is a fact finding mission. He said there seems we have two different versions of the Consolidation Agreement.

Mr. Frazier said where the agreement is a formal contract with the Hingham Board of Selectmen involving town employees, he suggested the discussion take place in Executive Session.

VOTE: Dr. Shilts moved to enter into Executive Session at 6:33 p.m. per MGL c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel relative to the Sewer Consolidation Agreement contract with the Hingham Board of Selectmen; seconded by Mr. Byrne and VOTED (roll-call):

members in favor: Byrne, Shilts & Frazier

members opposed: none

Scheduling

The next meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Welch
DPW/Sewer Office Manager

Documents reviewed during public meeting:

- *Meeting agenda 9/12/23*
- *North St. force main repair report & photo*

Town of Hingham



Hingham Sewer Commission Executive Session Minutes

September 12, 2023

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

Members Present

Clarke Frazier, chair; James Byrne & Kirk Shilts

Staff Present

None

Sewer Consolidation Agreement with the Hingham Board of Selectmen

The Commission entered into Executive Session at 6:33 p.m. per MGL c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel relative to the Sewer Consolidation Agreement contract with the Hingham Board of Selectmen.

- The Commission noted differences between two versions of the 2015 Consolidation Agreement, Statement of Work.
- The Commission discussed Consolidation Agreement scope and responsibilities with DPW Superintendent Randy Sylvester.
- The Commission discussed Consolidation Agreement scope and responsibilities with Sewer Supervisor Stephen Dempsey.
- The Commission plans to next meet with Town Administer Thomas Mayo in Executive Session to discuss the Consolidation Agreement.

Adjournment

Vote: Dr. Shilts moved to adjourn Executive Session at 9:21 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Byrne and VOTED (roll call):

members in favor: Byrne, Shilts and Frazier

members opposed: none

Respectfully submitted,
Kirk Shilts, D.C.

Documents reviewed during Executive Session:

- *Consolidation Agreement, (PDF) signed 10/1/15*
- *Consolidation Agreement, (Word Document)*
- *Letter from S. Dempsey, 9/8/23*
- *Email from T. Mayo, 9/12/23*