

Ashland Water and Sewer Commission Minutes
August 16, 2016
6 Collins Street
Ashland, NH
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Eli Badger, Chair of the Commission, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Members present for the meeting were Alan Cilley, David Toth, and Eli Badger

OTHERS PRESENT: Members of the public attending the meeting were Fran Newton, Christine Cilley, Rusty Cross, Steve Bullard and Mardean Badger.

NEW BUSINESS: Rusty advised the Commissioners that the fire hydrant on Riverside Drive had been replaced. He advised that Utility Partners were in the process of doing seasonal maintenance on the water and sewer systems. The maintenance is going smoothly.

Rusty met with Bob Mann of the Department of Environmental Services Waste Water Department for a State Inspection. Rusty reported that no deficiencies were found in the water and sewer system and all connections within the system were checked. Rusty and Bob Mann investigated the lead levels in the drinking water and the lead levels within the town's water pipes. This was done to make sure that the proper state regulations concerning lead levels in the town water pipes were being met.

During Mr. Mann's inspection he discussed with Rusty the upcoming Highland Street Project scheduled for 2020. Mr. Mann reviewed the records of the Water and Sewer Department plant, the present lab procedures and protocols, the proper paperwork for the plant and took a tour of the plant during its hours of operation.

Rusty met with Tom Schwartz on Friday to discuss the proper filters needed for the new Septage Receiving Station Project. A filter was found that worked. The following concerns were raised:

- About the box that would be used as part of the filtration system.
- That the fine particulates in the waste water were not being captured by the mesh in the box and by the filter.

- The box would need to be taken apart and washed down on a regular basis as part of the maintenance process.
- Use of any sort of fabric would blind the box mechanism
- Rental of the box: transportation from Texas where it is manufactured to NH would cost \$12,205; \$2,855 monthly rental going forward
- The Department would have a very small window to decide if we wanted or our project needed the box and filter.

Tom Schwartz will gather more information from Allenstown on how the box and filter we are considering works in the Allenstown Water and Sewer Department. He will discuss his research with the Commissioners at a later date. The Commissioners do not want to get into a position where they have to make any decisions in haste.

The Commissioners were in receipt of a letter from the Ashland Conservation Commission. The following concerns were raised in the text of the letter:

- That the Water and Sewer Department is selling water during a particularly dry summer and in the midst of a drought.
- That there are up to 15 tankers having access to the well head over a right of way
- Concern was raised about possible leakage or accidental leakage of petroleum distillates into the soil and then possibly into the aquifer
- The Northern Pass Project raises concerns about its effect on the town water supply
- No Water and Sewer personnel were onsite when the tankers were filling their tanks at the well head.
- Concern about a possible oil spill near the well head

After a lengthy discussion the Commissioners concluded that the information needed to answer each of these concerns has been compiled. In order to answer all the Conservation Commission's questions and concerns it was deemed appropriate that a meeting take place between the Water and Sewer Commission and the Conservation Commission on a date convenient to all parties. When all the questions and concerns have been adequately addressed a concise statement addressing these concerns should be drafted and put on the Water and Sewer Department and the Conservation Commission websites.

Jamie Lyford under RSA 91: A has made a request of the Water and Sewer Department to be shown how much money is being made from the bulk sale of water.

The Commissioners had a discussion about the federal grant they recently received. A concern had been raised that there was not enough matching money for the grant in the department's accounts. Those assembled were assured that the matching money needed for the grant was in the department's accounts. Under the grant the department will need to follow Federal guidelines. There will be a workshop scheduled in which all aspects of administering a federal grant will be discussed. The project for which the grant monies were given the engineering aspects of the project needs to go out to competitive bid. The grant monies will begin being received the end of October and the competitive bids will be solicited in November. There will be a Public Hearing concerning the grant as part of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Selectboard on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 6:15 at the Ashland Fire Station.

ADJOURNMENT:

Alan Cilley made a motion to adjourn. David Toth seconded the motion. With three votes in the affirmative the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Hancock
For the Ashland Water & Sewer Dept.