

Ashland Water and Sewer Commission Minutes
March 7, 2017
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 were Eli Badger, Alan Cilley, and David Toth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Members of the public present were Mardean Badger, Christine Cilley, Rusty Cross, Fran Newton and Tejasinha Sivalingam

NEW BUSINESS: Rusty distributed the Utility Partners monthly report to the Commissioners. Rusty brought to the Commissioners information concerning a Canadian company who wants to partner with a US company. This company will take liquid and solid waste from a Septage Receiving Station and turn it into liquid and solid fertilizer. This company manufactures the equipment and machinery for the fertilizer process and will market the finished product to interested companies. A representative from this Canadian company can meet with the Commissioners if they are interested in pursuing this option. The Commissioners felt the idea warranted at least to read through the information.

The Commissioners will meet with Michelle Robertson relative to the progress she has made on the Ashland GIS Project. The Commissioners will discuss with Michelle and Rusty the issue of local groundwater discharge.

Eli Badger had a conversation with Tom Schwartz regarding the Septage Receiving Station. Mr. Schwartz suggested that the Commissioners do not give up on the idea of renting containers for the Septage Receiving Station to filter the more solid portions of the septage trucked in.

David Toth discussed the progress on the Operating and Maintenance Plan. David has compiled a list of changes to the Operating and Maintenance Plan. It was suggested that he list the changes to the plan in its sections then distribute it for further comment. When the comment phase has been completed send the list of changes to the Department of Environmental Services.

Michelle will come to talk with the Commissioners relative to her progress with the GIS Project. Tom Schwartz would like to have a conference call with the Commissioners relative to the Septage Receiving Station.

An article appeared in the Laconia Sun penned by Tom Peters. The subject of the article was a change from Commissions/Boards form of government to a Town Manager form of government in Ashland. Under the Town Manager form of government Commissions would be disbanded and funds received from the local utilities can be used by the town to lower taxes. The funds from the local utilities over and above the operating expenses would be put into the general fund. The Town Manager would oversee all local utilities. Superintendents would be hired to run the business aspect of the utilities. The article complimented the Water and Sewer Dept. for their ability to bring great revenues into the department through the Septage Receiving Station and their continued applications for federal/state grants for the dept.

David Toth spoke with DRA relative to setting up a Capital Reserve Fund account for the Water and Sewer Dept. He was told that he could set up such an account. In the case of Capital Reserve expenses the DRA defers to the town's local auditor. Several towns in the state do this.

A motion was made by David to establish a Capital Reserve Fund account for the expenses/revenues of the Water and Sewer Dept. Alan Cilley seconded the motion. There were two votes in the affirmative and one vote in the negative. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Alan Cilley made a motion to adjourn. David Toth seconded the motion. With three votes in the affirmative the meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

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