



SEWER COMMISSIONERS' WORKSHOP

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 17, 2022

12:00 PM

Room 204, Acton Town Hall

472 Main Street

Present: David Martin, Dean Charter, Jim Snyder-Grant, Himaja Nagireddy, Fran Arsenault, and Town Manager John S. Mangiaratti

Absent: None

Mr. Martin called the Sewer Commissioners' meeting to order at 12:08 PM.

Mr. Mangiaratti introduced the presenters of the workshop: Corey York, DPW Director, QinRui Pang, Town Engineer, Andrea Becerra, Sustainability Director, Jack Troidl and Jim Rivard from Woodard & Curran, Steve Barrett, Finance Director, Brian McMullen, Assistant Finance Director, and Theresa O'Leary, Tax Collector. Mr. Troidl introduced the workshop presentation. The last workshop and presentation to the Sewer Commissioners was in 2013, and highlights of the presentation were the environmental impacts, emissions, and wastewater discharge. The wastewater treatment plant rehabilitation project funding was approved at the 2021 Annual Town Meeting for \$6.2 million. Mr. Troidl explained to the Commissioners the existing district's current and future needs, current capacity and future needs, infiltration/inflow removal, groundwater discharge, financial and rates and funding options.

Mr. Snyder-Grant questioned regarding stormwater runoff overflowing the sewer, Mr. Troidl explained the treatment plant has a built in inflow monitors to prevent overflow.

Questions for the Commissioners:

Mr. Mangiaratti asked the Commissioners about how do we maintain stable rates. Mr. Snyder-Grant responded and commented that expansion is expensive, so avoiding expanding would keep down costs. Expanding to the Spencer-Tuttle-Flint area in West Acton and then expanding to West Acton itself was going to be so expensive that voters at Town Meeting voted down the articles. Mr. Mangiaratti explained further that expanding would bring in more funding. Sewer expansion on Route 62 is being paid by the Powder Mill Place project, so connection from there to High Street will not cost residents to connect.

Mr. Martin suggested considering changing the betterment into a three-tier payment system, such as \$15,000 for one-bedroom unit, \$20,000 for a two-bedroom unit, and \$30,000 for three and more bedroom unit for discussion at a future Board meeting.

Mr. Mangiaratti asked about considering upgrades for energy options (from fossil fuels) such as the current oil burners which are utilized for heating the plant.

Mr. Charter moved, seconded by Ms. Arsenault and unanimously voted to adjourn at 2:13 PM.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting



- Agenda, March 17, 2022
- Presentation from Woodard & Curran
- Sewer Commissioner presentations from 2013