



COHASSET SEWER COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

In Attendance: William McGowan, Chairman
Wayne Sawchuk, Clerk
Paul Kierce
Dan Coughlin
Rod Hoffman

Meeting Open: 10:02am

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 @ 10:00am Regular Meeting

Approval of 3/9/21 Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: McGowan motions to approve minutes from 3/9/21: Paul Kierce seconds. All in favor

Sewer Use Fees:

MOTION: Bill McGowan motions for a 10% increase in sewer use fees to be put into town meeting, Effective July 1 2021

Wayne Sawchuk motions to approve the 10% rate increase of sewer use effective July 1 2001; Paul Kierce Seconds, Bill McGowan approves.

Sewer Connection Application Fee:

The CSC continues discussion of increasing the sewer connection application fee to help offset the costs the town incurs for review and inspections. The sewer applications today are more complex than in the past. There are more applications that dig into the street to put in a new tap.

Residential Gravity Connection: \$1,000 application fee

- If tapping into street an additional \$1,000

Residential Pressure Connection: \$1,700 application fee

- If tapping into street an additional \$1,000

Drain Layer Fee

- \$1,000 annually

Modified use permit for existing connections

MOTION: Bill McGowan motions to approve the fees listed above. Wayne Sawchuk approves, Paul Kierce approves

Sewer Service disconnect Permit and Fee: \$500 application fee for building teardowns. Want to ensure that the building scheduled to be torn down doesn't have an abandoned sewer connection that would collect ground and/or surface water which would result in I/I. The property owner must have a licensed sewer contractor to cap off the existing sewer line and locate the edge of the connection in an area right off the street.

Inspections will be done by plant operator.



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MOTION: Bill McGowan motions to approve the \$500 disconnect fee and the procedure to follow; Wayne Sawchuk approves, Paul Kierce approves.

Bylaws should include the tear down of buildings to make sure the lines are capped off. It should include inspections that may have a fee involved. WS will work with DC to put a paragraph together..

I/I consultant:

Dan Coughlin is asked to provide proposal for I/I reporting. W&C will also be asked for their proposal. Sewer Commission will decide next week.

Cooke Estate:

Present: Pam Fahey - Town Health Director, Jason Federico, town engineer. Jane Reardon Alisha Babcock, Mary McGoldrick Jim Carpenter - Chittenden lane residents. Kevin McKinnon providing peer review for town. Shawn Hardy consultant engineer.

Shawn Hardy discusses the issues with the failing system and the test pits that were done to determine where the ground water and sewer water is. 2 in failure, they will try to find an area on site to repair. The other 2 systems need to be evaluated to make sure they are running properly. Shawn Hardy was asked to develop 2 wells, not done at this time.

Alternative solutions are discussed. All onsite alternatives have to be evaluated / exhausted. If sewer becomes the best solution, then the Cooke Estates will initiate the process by submitting a sewer application. Pam Fahey pointed out that DEP recommendation was to connect to sewer because they thought anything else done on site may only last 5 years and the condo association would be throwing out good money to a solution that wouldn't last.

Next steps:

Peer review would like ground water contours developed, pump out the wells and retest the water and evaluate alternative sites on the property. Jane Reardon will talk to Paul Davis about getting 1 and 4 certified.

Diab Lane Lots:

Bill McGowan recused himself during this discussion. Attorney Rider is present and recapping past discussions. Mr. Shannon had until February 1 to submit applications for the 3 lots. and has to pay all past taxes before these applications are approved. There was miscommunication due to tax bills paid were held for 2 weeks and sewer wasn't notified of payment.

Mr. Shannon requests the board reconsider the decision made at last meeting and allow him to use the old Templar house sewer connections for 3, 9, 15 Diab Lane lots.

Wayne Sawchuk points out that it depends on what is Mr. Shannon plans next. The grandfathered rate can't be on hold indefinitely without commencing construction, its not fair to others in town that want to connect, if the CSC continues to extend the connection of these lots at the reduced rate. The CSC cannot predict capacity availability in years to come.

Mr Shannon said he is prepared to make these sewer connections within the next 6 months, deadline being September 16, 2021.



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If it is not done by September 16, 2021, Mr. Shannon will have to pay the difference in the cost for sewer connection at today's rate.

The CSC requests Attorney Rider to put a note together to say Mr. Shannon will develop and connect by September 16, 2021 or the fee will be increased to today's rate.

Attorney Rider to get together with Attorney Hoffman come up with language that will satisfy all.

On an additional Note:

The application fee has been increased to \$1,700 per application. Therefore, Mr Shannon has to submit an additional \$2,100 for the 3 sewer connection applications previously submitted.

Attorney Hoffman agrees the previously submitted applications are subject to the new connection application rates.

MOTION: Wayne Sawchuk motions to reconsider the previous decision to deny 3, 9 15 Diab Lane lots when CSC receives the agreement letter that must be submitted by the next meeting.

Paul Kierce seconds.

MOTION: Wayne Sawchuk motions that providing certain conditions are met and construction commences with sewer connection for 3, 9, and 15 Diab Lane, by September 16, 2021, the 3 EDU's from templar house to be used on these lots.

Paul Kierce seconds.

All in Favor

Wayne Sawchuk - Aye

Paul Kierce - Aye

Other Business:

None at this time.

Bill McGowan makes a motion to adjourn regular meeting and go into Executive Session:

Paul Kierce seconds.

The Cohasset Sewer Commission Adjourns regular business and will now go into Executive Session:

Executive Session Exemption #3 - To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The Commission will discuss upcoming application for a Sewer Connection.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:25am

Bill McGowan motions to adjourn, Paul Kierce seconds.

Bill McGowan - Aye

Wayne Sawchuk - Aye

Paul Kierce - Aye

All in favor.