

WATER-SEWER COMMISSION MEETING
September 11, 2019

Members Present: Steve Nims, Doug Briggs, Julie Dean, George Cornwall, Leo Collette, Dave Berger, Charlie Packard; Also Present: Gary Howland

CALL TO ORDER: 1:00 p.m.

Motion by Leo Collette to approve September 11, 2019 agenda, 2nd by George Cornwall to approve the May 14, 2019 agenda, vote was unanimous.

Motion by George Cornwall to approve the minutes from May 14, 2019 meeting, 2nd by Leo Collette, vote was unanimous.

Motion by George Cornwall to make Dave Berger new Chairman, 2nd by Charlie Packard, vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Steve Nims explained to the board that Habitat for Humanity requested water connection fees be waived on two homes they are building on Lakeshore Drive. They have already sent a check to pay the \$2,500.00 connection fees/per lot (total of \$5,000.00 paid for connection fees). Board discussed whether to waive fees. Motion made by Charlie Packard to accept fees as paid, 2nd by George Cornwall, vote was unanimous. DPW/ Water Dept. will send letter to Habitat to Humanity informing them that the Board voted not to waive water connection fees and Dave Berger, Chairman will sign letter.

Steve Nims updated the board that the DEP mandated an I/I study 2 years ago, gave us an extension to complete the study which has been done by Weston & Sampson the past spring for \$50,000.00. We are currently waiting for the results from Weston & Sampson which Steve will find out the status of the results.

Doug Briggs updated the board on Revenue & Expenses. He stated it is too early to get a picture of the Revenue and that 34% of the Water budget has been expended to date (33% is the \$200,000.00 loan payment – last payment) and that 6% of the Sewer budget has been expended to date. Doug told the Board that the revenues look good. The Town paid \$30,818.00 in June on the last assessment, that it did not get into the system in June but is in there as of July which is why there is revenue showing this fiscal year. He said that the FY18 budget has been completed and that there is little to no free cash in Water & Sewer. He said free cash was not certified in time but will come in next year.

Gary Howland informed the Board that the eastern shore of Upper Naukeag Lake will have forest cutting done. He said that there is a 100 ft. filter strip but there is a section at the southern end that does not have a filter strip. They will be crossing wetlands that they will put bridges (logs) down to cross. Heather/Building Dept. can provide documentation.

OLD BUSINESS

Doug Briggs suggested that the Board wait to see if Gardner gets a new Mayor (up for election) before MOU is signed. Gardner has a Capital improvement plan going on and is looking to get \$666,000.00 from Ashburnham which is 5% of the overall budget for this plan. Gardner rate payers are paying for this plan. Ashburnham pays the same rate that users pay so we have already paid our share. Doug said that the Mayor has told him that we have no control over how they spend the money we pay to Gardner. Doug said that the MOU went from 20 years to 5 years but should be 20 years.

Meeting adjourned: 2:17 pm

Respectfully submitted by, *Julie Dean*