



RAYNHAM BOARD of SEWER COMMISSIONERS

RAYNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 8, 2024

PRESENT: Mr. Joseph Bettencourt, Chair; Mr. Joseph Bickel, Commissioner; Mr. Jeff Kelleher, and Mr. Rob Carey, Raynham Sewer Superintendent

CALLED TO ORDER:

Mr. Bettencourt called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2023

Motion: Moved by Mr. Kelleher and seconded by Mr. Bettencourt to approve the Sewer Commission meeting minutes of December 14, 2023 as printed. Discussion: None. Vote: 2-0-1 (Mr. Bickel abstained)

Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2024

Motion: Moved by Mr. Bickel and seconded by Mr. Bettencourt to approve the Sewer Commission meeting minutes of January 11, 2024 as printed. Discussion: None. Vote: 2-0-1 (Mr. Kelleher abstained)

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Rob Carey

Department Operations

Chris Bryant, Department Electrician, was hired a few weeks back. Mr. Bryant has been shadowing to learn the daily inspections of the pumping stations. He has been involved in pump station repairs and Dig Safe mark outs on Rt. 138. Mr. Bryant will also be involved in wiring the remote-control panel in the Sewer Department garage for the generator.

Taunton Treatment

The second quarter treatment invoice was processed in the amount of \$106,724 and the I&I invoice in the amount of \$74,200. In comparing this year’s quarter one and two invoices, the amount has been \$4,000 less per each quarter of the previous year.

Sewer Use Billing

The initial steps on the billing are complete and Brenda is now verifying name changes on accounts related to home sales before sending to Vadar.

Sewer Connections

There have been no new connections this month.

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

Mr. Carey prepared the FY25 budget for the Board to review later in the meeting. Timeline for the Budget submittal to the Finance Committee is February 26, 2024.

ARPA Generator Project

The submittals were approved and the order for the generators have been released. The expected lead time for the generators is 40 weeks, which is in October.

Riverview Raynham

The Board of Appeals will be presented a 40B project on February 21, 2024. In speaking with the Town Administrator, he feels that the Town may be able to appeal this since the Town had most recently approved Broadway Crossing which in turn puts Raynham into Safe Harbor status with 12% affordable housing available. The proposed parcel of land does not have sewer currently, but the applicant is proposing to run sewer westerly on Rt. 44 to Leonard Street toward Carol Drive. This would impact three immediate pump stations not including Rt. 44 Pump Station. Mr. Carey informed that all three pump stations will need improvements as they are not sized for that amount of flow. The pump stations affected would be the Pine Street Pump station, Whippoorwill Pump Station, and Old King Street Pump Station.

Mill Street Culvert Replacement

The footings have been poured and the wing walls are being formed with concrete pouring next week. The stream diversion has been removed and routed back through the culvert area. The gas company is scheduled to relocate the gas line in March. The permanent sewer line will be installed by the end of the month with an 8" line. The temporary sewer line installed during Phase 7 Sewer Project was only a 6" line.

Rt. 44 Diesel Tank Replacement

The fuel line from the tank has been piped into the building along with a new level sensing unit and exterior lighting on the back of the building. Work site clean-up was performed and a chain-link fence reinstalled.

NEW BUSINESS

FY23 Annual Report

Mr. Carey presented the Board with the FY23 Annual Report for January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The report is a summary of the work completed during the year.

The Board complimented Mr. Carey on an excellent report.

FY25 Budget Review and Approval

Mr. Carey presented the FY25 Budget to the Board in the amount of \$3,067,942, 1.88% increase from last year or a total of \$56,487. The biggest portion of the increase is due to retirement and pensions. The total expense line is \$2,066,236.

Mr. Carey reviewed the amounts for each line item within the budget.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Bickel and seconded by Mr. Kelleher to accept the FY25 Budget as presented.

Discussion: Mr. Bettencourt reminded everyone that the budget could change due to unforeseen changes in insurance, retirement, and pensions. Vote: 3-0-0

Sewer User Rate Review and Approval

Mr. Carey reviewed the process in calculating the rates. The total amount sent to Taunton for January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 was 333,570,000 gallons. The commercial usage of 77,662,909 gallons is subtracted from the total gallons to Taunton and this figure is the residential amount, 255,907,091 gallons. The commercial percentage of flow was 23% and residential was 77%. The percentages are close to last years.

Based on last year's residential rate of \$492 with a total of 4,823 residential units, the generated revenue would be \$2,372,916. Based on last year's commercial rate of \$9.30 per thousand gallons, the generated revenue would be \$722,265. Total generated revenue \$3,095,181 which will leave a reserve of \$27,239.

Mr. Carey recommended continuing with the residential rate of \$492 per year and commercial rate of \$9.30 per thousand gallons.

Mr. Bickel commented on the number of gallons sent last year to Taunton and the remaining available for Raynham to use.

Mr. Bettencourt informed that there is room for Raynham to send additional flow, but there is over a thousand existing units that have not tied in and two projects approved in the Town for 40B that will generate another 368 units. The Town of Raynham continues to work with Taunton to increase capacity to the City.

City of Taunton allows a flow of 1.3M gallons per day.

Town of Raynham currently sending 913,890 gallons per day to Taunton.

Existing units in Raynham, not tied in, 1,100 plus approved projects, 368 units would equal an additional 234,880 gallons per day.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Bickel and seconded by Mr. Kelleher to approve the Sewer User Rates to remain the same, \$492 for residential and \$9.30 per thousand for commercial. Discussion: None.

Vote: 3-0-0

COMMISSIONERS COMMENT

Mr. Bettencourt commented on the reserve of \$27,000 if all billing was collected on time. He also informed of outstanding sewer use billing unpaid of \$110,000.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bettencourt asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Moved by Mr. Bickel and seconded by Mr. Kelleher to adjourn from the Raynham Sewer Commission Meeting of February 8, 2024 at 6:43p.m. for the performance of administrative duties only.

Vote: 3-0-0

Transcribed from Recording

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Caradonna
Recording Secretary

Documents provided to the Sewer Commission

- Mr. Carey's Report
- FY23 Annual Report
- FY25 Budget
- Sewer User Rates

Next Meeting date:

Thursday, March 14, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.