

# *Sewer and Water Minutes*

*November 10, 2020*

Present: Don Schneyer, John Loiodice, Peter Socha, Tony Campetti, Mike Buffoni, and Jennifer Carmichael

Don asked for a motioned to accept the minutes from October 6th, John motioned to accept the minutes and Peter seconded, all were in favor.

Echo Lake Status: reservoir is only 7 inches below overflow.

Rebid Curtisville Bridge pipes and letter from a resident with questions concerning the pipe relocation: The project is being rebid not as a pre-qualified bridge project as no state money. It was sent to Mass DOT to be pre-qualified; it was first classified as a painted steel project; the engineer had them look at it again and DOT categorized it as a bridge project. Because Sewer and Water Departments are funding the project it does not have to get pre-qualified by Mass DOT as there is no state money involved. The bid should go out this week to get the utilities off the bridge. The mains/utilities need to be moved as the bridge is deteriorating. The commission felt that the letter from the resident had posed excellent questions. Foresight had devised a plan to carry the span to support the water and sewer mains with concrete bearing pads on each side with eye beams put in the bridge deck. Foresight saw the bridge was deteriorating much quicker than anticipated and now we are in emergency mode to move the mains off the bridge. The water main which is cast iron was put in around 1904 and would be harder to fix. The sewer main is newer done in the 1980s and could be put back. The plan long term is to put the mains back in the bridge once the bridge is fixed; which could be 5 to 10 years. The footings for the bridge are taking a pounding from the running water. BSC Group have been watching over the bridge and have taken pictures. Curtisville Bridge is a Town bridge, but Sewer and Water departments were told they would have to pay for moving the utility mains out of their funds. The Commission was never involved nor the finance committee as to who would pay for moving the mains. Tony and Mike were told they would have to pay for it. Peter asked if Mike would reach out to the resident with questions and reiterate what we discussed at the meeting. Minutes from the previous month will not be posted until they are approved by the Commission the following month.

Tuckerman's Bridge water line move: We have only received a quote on the engineering for that move, and will ask for funds at the Town meeting in May.

Stockbridge Bowl Fall Testing: The last round of testing was done today, 11/10, by GZA.

Water and Sewer Rates and a senior discount: A break sown of rates in other towns were looked at and our rates are below most of the towns in Berkshire County. To do this we

would have to make up the difference in a rate increase. Don did not feel the Commission should approve this, Peter and John agreed there should be no discount.

Tony, Mark and Mike went out to Amherst to look at a sewer pump station to replace the Park Street pump station put in in 1970: They looked at 3 different ones made by Smith & Loveless each with various years of use. Tony asked the engineer to do a comparison of the existing design and the portable pump station. They also will go to Winsted, CT to look at a lake community sewer pump station, which had a comparable number of houses served. Tony and Mike will get some quotes and the Commissioners were all in favor of moving forward with updating the Park Street Pump Station. They can buy the package from Smith and Loveless which comes with the plans to install it.

Safety issue with the fence at the causeway at Echo Lake: Town will probably never close the road; this is our only water supply. There used to be a stone wall along the lake side of the road. Speak to an engineer to look at the cost of a concrete/stone veneer wall to be installed there to protect the only water supply the Town has since 1889. Mike will talk to an engineer and get information on different walls. Foresight is doing a hazardous mitigation plan for the Town involving culverts and earthen dams. With a hazardous mitigation plan the biggest problem we have is the spillway at Echo Lake and the engineer has included this in the plan. There may be state funding for this and the lake will be included.

Interlaken Bridge replacement status: This will go back out to bid. The Town will not lose the \$1.5M state grant involved with the bridge, nor will the Town lose the \$500,000 grant to do the Interlaken Park bridge, the first bridge on Averic Road. These grants expire in December and Mike Canales filled out the paperwork to renew these grants. They do have to get rebid. BSC Group is the engineer on the job and looking into rewriting the specs as to what has been done, construction, things purchased and what is still needed

Letter received from Quiet Knoll Road group; they had extended the sewer up to the cul-de-sac and would like to revert the ownership back to the Town. When designed it was made to the specs that the Town would be comfortable owning it. The Commissioners were all in favor of owning the line. The cost is \$17,000 and will save about \$1,200 per year.

Waste Water Treatment Plant received a grant from the Green Community to convert to LED lights and switches. The Town Administrator signed an Order of Acceptance agreement with Guardian Energy Management to replace all the lights. The cost is \$17,000 and will save about \$1,200 per year in electricity charges.

Access road to the plant: Mike Kulig is writing a curb-cut permit to the state which was never included with the new garage documents; that is why it is closed.

Mike will work with the Town Administrator to put an RFP out to refurbish the other 2 finished water pumps at the water plant.

Received a letter from Town Counsel on the easement for Stockbridge Gas and our right of way for the water main. Mike will ask the Town Administrator to have Town Counsel send a letter to Nicholas Nadorff in lieu of not knowing who the successor trustee is of the trust.

Peter motioned to adjourn the Sewer and Water meeting and John seconded, all were in favor.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Carmichael