

Grinder Pump Study Committee
Minutes of Meeting Held on Wednesday, July 1, 2015

Committee Members In attendance:

Tom Gilroy, Chairman	Dan Burke, Vice Chairman
Curtis Barton	David Foley
Peggy Dunn	Ed Safran
Bob Chevalier	
Joyce Cote, Recording Clerk	

Not present:

Steve Jahnle, Assistant DPW Director

Meeting was Chaired and called to order by Tom Gilroy at 7:00 p.m. -- Reminded all that the meeting is taped and broadcast live and rebroadcast at a later date.

Brief tribute to Walter Hedlund who passed away on June 30th.

Peggy Dunn made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 17th meeting; Bob Chevalier second; all in favor.

Peggy Dunn made a motion to re-appoint Dan Burke as Vice Chairman of the Committee; Dave Foley second; all in favor.

A modification to the current Grinder Pump By-law 132-3 was presented by Mike Vosnakis, Sewer Operations Superintendent (attached)

Questions -- Section A:

Dave Foley: Does this have an impact on existing GP owners? No.

Ed Safran: Does this change the Sewer Division operations in any way? No

Dan Burke: Does the Board of Health still address those that don't tie in? Should this be addressed in the By-law? No. Board of Health is a separate entity and tie-in is addressed in the Sewer Use Regulations (SUR)

Mike reiterated that the By-law is a general overview of what is required by the Town. The SUR will provide more detail.

Sections C and D:

Some suggestions on wording changes: (noted on attached copy)

Section E:

Ed Safran: Why is this necessary? Releases the Town from liability on prior faulty installations – some were done privately – some do not have remote alarms.

Was agreed that the Proposed Modification should be further reviewed by Mike Vosnakis and the members of the GPSC for discussion at the next meeting. The intent is to finalize and submit to Town Counsel for further review.

Tom Gilroy: Proposed that the following request be put to Town Meeting members in the Fall -- To see if the Town will raise, appropriate or transfer funds from the Sewer Enterprise Account in the amount of \$_____ to fund the Grinder Pump Maintenance and Repair Contract.

Gary Persichetti, DPW Director: We have a list provided by Weston & Sampson of items that need to be addressed over the next four years. After that is complete, money to fund this effort should decrease and at that time we may be able to begin to fund additional money for maintenance of the entire sewer system.

His concern is what we need to do moving forward and maintain an appropriate level of money in the reserve fund to handle major expenses associated with the entire Sewer system. He is not in favor of transferring money from the reserve fund to support Grinder Pump maintenance. It will compromise the fund.

Dan Burke: Intent was always to have the GP owners receive equal support as the gravity feed owners. Although GP owners received discounts, etc. in the amount of \$2.7M, the Town also benefitted monetarily.

Citizens Comments:

Richard Gorham, 15 Fenwick Drive: The Sewer Commission dictated that they would be receiving a Grinder Pump – no other option. Did receive a betterment reduction – amount is insignificant at this point. He has replaced 3 pumps – lasted about 12 years each. Most houses in the area have been sold and new home owners were unaware that there was a Grinder Pump installed. Constant worry that there will be a back up. Gravity feed owners do not have this worry. Grateful to the GPSC for what they are doing.

Curtis Barton: suggested inviting Paul Cohen to next meeting to discuss his meeting with the EPA so the GPSC can understand the financial impact.

Bob Chevalier: Are the SUR that we have current? Yes
When will they be updated?

Gary Persichetti: Can't provide a timeframe at this point. Will have a better idea by next meeting.

Peggy Dunn: Will we be putting together a contract for GP owners? No -- this is addressed in the SUR.

Next meeting to take place on Wednesday, July 29th at 7:00 p.m.

Curtis Barton motion to adjourn; Peggy Dunn seconded motion. Adjourned at 8:02 p.m.