

Town of Farmingdale

Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2015

The Farmingdale Sewer Committee met on Thursday July 16, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Farmingdale Town Office.

Members Present: Ben Sanborn, Dana Parker JoAnn Choate, Mike Pelletier and Wayne Kilgore (Liaison)

Others Present: Tony LaPlante, Charles Anderson

Ben called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

✚ JoAnn made a motion to accept the minutes of June 18 as submitted.

✚ Mike 2nd the motion

✚ Vote 4-0-0

Discussion: There was a discussion with Tony LaPlante from Gardiner Water to see if there are any ideas on what can be done to solve the problem with sand getting into the meter pit. Mike explained that the past 2 times that the meter pit has been cleaned a considerable amount of black sand has been found. Mike asked for an estimate from Ted Berry Co. to flush and vacuum part of Northern Ave this came in at \$4,400.00 and Mike has not accepted the proposal from Ted Berry Co. and thought that this should go out to bid.

Tony said that winter sand can be causing the problems he said that you can limit it but you can never stop it from happening. Tony also said that Gardiner has issues with people putting wipes in the sewer system and then that will cause a block. He also suggested to do a manhole inspection of Northern Ave., Sheldon and Maine Street and to clean some of them if needed. Gardiner has found rocks in their system and has determined that they came from Farmingdale. Tony stated that when Gardiner has a problem they fix it. He said this is not cheap but bottom line is that you need to fix things before they get out of hand and you have a problem.

Mike spoke about creating a sand pit that would catch the sand and allow Farmingdale to vacuum out before it enters Gardiner's system.

Conclusion Action to be taken: Mike Pelletier will make some calls and see if creating a pit to catch sand is a possibility. Mike will also talk with Julian about inspecting some of the manholes and getting them cleaned out. Ben thought that the next steps are before we get any answers would be that we have the meter pit cleaned at least one more time.

Discussion: Mr. Anderson thought that Mike's idea of a big clean out was a very good idea.

Mr. Anderson was a member of the Sewer Committee years ago and had some information that he thought the current committee would like to have. He had the manual and schematics, old readings and also a proposed Parshall Flume Insert Removal Analysis. He turned this over to Mike Pelletier who will be looking this over to see if there is any information that can be used now. Mr. Anderson said that he would be happy to help the town out in way he can.

Discussion: Sewer Maintenance Contract. Ben stated that it is his understanding that this is at the Select Board level based on the email conversations that have been going on back and forth. There was not a vote at the last Select Board meeting on Wednesday 7/8/2015 on the Sewer Maintenance Contract. Ben feels that there are 2 issues.

1. What happens if a letter goes back to Ellis construction saying:
 - A) Here is a signed copy of the Sewer Maintenance contract and we need a signed copy.

- B) Based on the information we provided and the language of the contract that was in place and the language that has been maintained for the new contract, items relating to OSHA certification and/or safety are explicitly not to be the responsibility of town so therefore going forward on new invoices the amounts associated with those items will not be paid.
2. If Ellis construction says no and that they are not interested in renewing the contract, then this will need to go out to bid for a new sewer maintenance contractor. This brings up the 2nd item, which is to what extent is this an agreement that is primarily dealing with routine and/or emergency maintenance versus non-emergency items such as clean outs that we may want to do every 6 weeks until we can come up with a solution to the problem. Should this be something that we put out to bid. Should clean outs be separate from the Sewer Maintenance Contract. What is the scope of work in this contract? If Ellis construction says yes to the contract then what does that mean on an ongoing basis for any of these non-emergency items that we might want done and do we do them under this agreement or not.

Ben thought that there was a change in circumstance when Angie Ellis came and described to us what the cost elements that went into each of these items on the invoice. Ben said that he thought that there was a disconnect and that after this meeting found that per the contract and Town of Farmingdale ordinance's that we may have paid items that we should not have. Going forward based on your description it appears that your invoices may have included bills for items that are not included in your contract because it explicitly says that OSHA and safety issue are not to be billed to the town. Mike asked what this meant for confined space because it requires OSHA Safety. Mike also brought up some other things in the contract that he thought that would mean that we could possibly get better pricing on. The current contract is a list of annual inspections and duties and to be on call to respond to emergencies. If there is something non-emergency it seems that it is outside the scope of this contract and that the town would be able to put this out to bid. Mike suggested that when the contract is redone that we should make things a little clearer. There was discussion on getting rates for services from several contractors and making a list so that the town can get a better pricing on services that may be needed in the future.

Discussion: There was some discussion on raising some of the manholes in town. There are some in town that are in desperate need of the work.

Conclusion or Action to be taken: Mike has a template that he can use to put together for bids for these projects. The Farmingdale Road Advisory Committee known as F.R.A.C has a list of manholes that need repair and will share this with the Sewer Committee and try to coordinated work between Highway and Sewer projects. Wayne will try to find out when natural gas will be coming through Farmingdale so that maybe some work can be coordinated with this also.

Discussion: The pump that went bad in the Northern Ave. pump station was warrantied and was repaired. This pump was supposed to be delivered to the town office but has not yet.

Conclusion or Action to be taken: . Mike will call to see where the pump is and when it will be delivered.

Discussion: Kennebec Savings Abatement request

Conclusion or Action to be taken: This abetment was approved in the amount of \$114.00

- ✚ Mike made a motion to approve the abatement for Kennebec Savings in the amount of \$114.00.
- ✚ Dana 2nd the motion
- ✚ Vote 4-0-0

Discussion: An invoice was sent to the City of Gardiner in the amount of \$204.25 to cover a request for abatement from Donald and Judith Dyer. The committee thought that this should be sent to Gardiner because they had requested that the residents keep the water running because of frozen service lines.

Discussion: Natalie gave the Sewer Committee a copy to show them the balance in the check book and also let them know that the sewer bills would be sent out the following week.

- + Dana made a motion to adjourn the Sewer Committee meeting
- + Jo Ann 2nd the motion
- + Vote 4-0-0

Minutes Approved:

Date

Ben Sanborn, Chair

Mike Pelletier

Dana Parker

JoAnn Choate