



Colchester Sewer and Water Commission
Hybrid Special Meeting Minutes

MEETING: 21 December 2023
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Town Hall, Meeting Room #1

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1. Meeting called to Order at 7:02 PM by Chairman Robert Peter

Attending: R. Peter, R Silberman, G LePage, T. Hochdorfer, J. Leone, Public Works Director, B. Dennler, First Selectman, Mary Williamson, Finance

2. Approval of the November 8th, Sewer & Water Commission Special Meeting minutes,

R. Silberman made a motion to accept as written, Seconded by G. LePage.
Approved unanimously.

3. Citizen Comments: Introductions with First Selectman, Bernie Dennler and Finance Officer, Mary Williamson
4. Finance: November Monthly Reports – J. Leone reviewed the Sewer and Water Enterprises' expenditures and discussed the format requested to review budget status.

5. Sewer Activity

- a. Refill of diesel of Generators at
 - i. Soliciting quotes on regular maintenance and rodent protection from Tower Generator
 - ii. Exploded battery at Prospect Hill Pump Station – J. Leone explained, further need for maintenance plan

- b. FOG investigation SSMH R-6 (Dr. Foote Rd) to SSMH R-19 (Rte 16) – J. Leone reviewed

6. Water Activity

- a. Meeting with Social Services, Finance, and Board of Selectmen to discuss pain points of ratepayers' payment process. Revenue discussion lead to the Towns' initiative to ease payment methods and recover missing revenue.

7. Old Business

- a. PFAS Class Action Settlement: J. Leone explained why the town did not opt out of the settlement.

8. New Business

- a. Reassign ARPA funding from the taller water tank to the smaller for complete maintenance and repairs.
R. Silberman made the motion to request the Colchester Board of Selectmen to assign the ARPA funding from the 70 ft. tank to the 40 ft. tank. Seconded by G. LePage and approve unanimously.

- b. DWSRF grant direction discussion for FY 25-26 – J. Leone solicited a list of other capital improvements needing this funding. A few projects came up and the commission will add to this list for next meeting.
- c. Camera installation at our utility sites. J. Leone offered a brief introduction and it was determined its best discussed during a regular meeting.
- d. Motion to approve Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) review and feedback for Joint Facilities.

R. Silberman made the Motion to approve the listed SOPs and checklists for Joint Facilities to implement in their regular maintenance procedures. Seconded by G. LePage and approved unanimously.

- e. Motion to request First Selectman to authorize a bid waiver for Well 5A redevelopment.

The Commission realizes the limited companies that can perform this work, but discussion revolved on the criteria requiring such redevelopment at this time.

R. Silberman made a motion to request the First Selectman to authorize the bid waiver for SB Church to perform Well 5A redevelopment, with the condition, the well's yield warrants such a work at this time. G. LePage seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

- f. Motion to advertise for position of Sewer & Water Commission recorder to make meeting minutes for the cost of \$75 per meeting. J. Leone presented the need for this position.

Discussion was to assure Town employee job descriptions do not already include Clerk to the S&W Commission and to find if a stipulation of payment for such exists. In case no information is found;

R. Silberman made the motion to advertise for the position of Sewer & Water Commission recorder and taking of minutes for the cost of \$75 per hour. Seconded by G. LePage and passed unanimously.

- 9. Citizen Comments: Steve Coyle pointed out the importance of timing for the 40 ft water tank maintenance. It needs to be done at specific times of the year and within the ARPA fund expenditure requirements.
- 10. T. Hochdorfer made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM