

**RECEIVED**

By Karen Wilber, Town Clerk's Office at 6:28 pm, Feb 22, 2022

**WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 26, 2021**

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2:00 PM – Conference Room B, 63 Main Street Northborough MA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Meader  
Bryant Firmin  
David Pepe

**ALSO PRESENT:** Scott Charpentier, Public Works Director  
Robert Luke, Administrative Assistant  
Julianne Hirsh, Board of Selectmen Liaison

Commissioner Meader opened the meeting at 2:04 PM.

**1. Consideration of minutes from the August 24, 2021 regular meeting**

Commissioner Firmin moved to approve the meeting minutes of the August 24, 2021 regular meeting as written, Commissioner Meader seconded the motion; the vote was two in favor with Commissioner Pepe abstaining.

**2. Rate Relief Program**

Mr. Charpentier explained that the Town's Treasurer brought our attention to the Sewer Rate Relief Fund as provided by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue Division of Local Services. This program provides debt relief to sewer users if the debt did not receive State grant funds nor was funded through the State Revolving Fund. Mr. Charpentier indicated that there is \$322,100 of FY2022 sewer debt and up to 20% of that is eligible for this program.

Commissioner Firmin commented on a spelling typo in the document that needed correcting.

Commissioner Pepe moved to approve the signing of the application. Commissioner Firmin seconded the motion; the vote was all in favor.

All Commissioners signed the document.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mr. Charpentier stated that the United States of America Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued the new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Westerly Wastewater Treatment Plant in Marlborough. The permit maintains the previously permitted discharge amount of 2.89 Million Gallons per Day (MGD), lowers the pH threshold, and adds an aluminum threshold due to the presence of Atlantic salmon habitat in the receiving water.

Commissioner Meader asked if there was any new information on the Assabet tank project. Mr. Charpentier noted that work is on hold until the spring.

Commissioner Pepe asked for an update on the Marlborough Court action. Mr. Charpentier responded that the court has not yet issued its decision.

Ms. Hirsh stated that the Master Plan Implementation Committee would like to know the limits of the Town's sewer collection system in the downtown area. Mr. Charpentier replied that the most current system map would be provided as there are service gaps in the area.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 5:30PM in person.

**Adjourn:** Commissioner Pepe moved the Board vote to adjourn at 2:41 PM; Commissioner Firmin seconded the motion; the vote was all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Luke  
Administrative Assistant

### Documents used during meeting:

1. October 26, 2021 Meeting Agenda
2. August 24, 2021 Regular Meeting/Public Hearing Minutes
3. Sewer Rate Relief Fund Application