

Ashland Water and Sewer Commission Minutes
January 16, 2018
6 Collins Street
Ashland, NH
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

David Toth, Chair of the Water and Sewer Commission called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Members present were David Toth and Alan Cilley.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Others present were Rusty Cross and Christine Cilley.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rusty Cross advised the Commissioners that Utility Partners has been doing basic winter maintenance at the Water and Sewer Plant.

The Water and Sewer Commissioners were advised the Budget Committee. They were further advised that the Budget Committee decreased the Water Contractor Services line by \$60,000. David Toth sent an email to the Budget Committee Chair, Jeanette Stewart, explaining that the proposed amount covered a signed contract. Alan Cilley made the same case at the Budget Committee hearing; however, the Budget Committee did not restore the full amount to the line. David Toth explained that the Water & Sewer Department must and will honor the contract and that Enterprise Funds can spend any or all of their revenues to cover expenses.

The Commissioners discussed the warrant articles for the Septage Receiving Station and the Asset Management Plan. The commissioners believe that both projects may go forward whether or not the articles pass because the article are for loans, not the project. David Toth will confirm that position with Attorney Steven Whitley.

The Commissioners discussed sponsoring a Public Information Session to educate the public about the importance of the Septage Receiving Station and the Asset Management Plan. The department will hold the session at the Ashland Fire Station on Wednesday, February 28, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

The Commissioners have written a Letter to the Editor to both the Plymouth Record Enterprise and the Laconia Sun concerning to claims made at two recent public meetings

that Water & Sewer Rates were raised three times in 2017. The letter explains that rates were raised by 5% in April 2017. David Toth examined the bills of the person making the claim and verified that the person's rates were only raised once.

The Commissioners discussed a visit by Tom Schwartz to the WWTF to evaluate SCADA requirements for the new Septage Receiving Station. Tom Schwatz pointed out that the PLC panels at the WWTF office were out of date and would not communicate effectively with the new equipment. The commissioners agreed to upgrade the PLCs as part of the SCADA installation.

The Commissioners will meet with Tom Schwartz on Wednesday, January 17th to discuss the progress on the Septage Receiving Station. They also discussed an upcoming meeting with Nobis concerning the use of solar panels to power the WWTF.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Hancock
For the Ashland Water & Sewer Dept.