

Town of Hillsborough Water & Sewer Commission
July 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order 6:00p.m. Present were Commissioners Peter Mellen, Chris Sieg, and Dave Lewis; and, Penny Griffin, Administrator.

Also present was John Segedy.

6:05 pm Commissioner Peter Mellen opened the public hearing.

Commissioner Mellen read aloud the proposed ordinance changes to Hillsborough Sewer Ordinance §181-51 C and Hillsborough Water Ordinance §223-43 C addressing stand-by fees for tax deeded properties.

The proposed ordinance changes are to add the following statement to the above referenced sewer ordinance:

“Tax-deeded properties owned/taken by the town that are unoccupied and/or not in use are exempt from the sewer standby fees,”

And to add the following statement to the above referenced water ordinance:

“Tax-deeded properties owned/taken by the town that are unoccupied and/or not in use are exempt from the water standby fees.”

Commissioner Mellen asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mr. Segedy suggested that ordinance be worded so that the Commissioners “may waive the fees on tax-deeded properties owned/taken by the town that are unoccupied and/or not in use upon Selectmen’s request”; rather than automatically waiving the fees. He stated that automatically waiving the fees for properties that the Selectmen tear down the existing building is okay. However, if the Selectmen are going to sell the property with the building, it should not be waived automatically as the Selectmen will get reimbursed for all taxes and fees when the property sells.

A discussion was held regarding the two (2) recent tax-deeded properties that inspired this ordinance change by the Selectmen. Commissioner Mellen stated that the Selectmen decided to remove the building and sever the services from 8 Wyman Street which, per the current ordinances, eliminate future fees.

Commissioner Mellen asked if the town stops assessing taxes on tax-deeded properties. No one in the group knew the answer.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Segedy for his input and stated that they would consider his suggestion.

6:30 pm Commissioner Mellen closed the public hearing.

The Commissioners reviewed a Change of Use application for 66 Bridge Street. The request is to add a two (2) bedroom apartment in the garage which is a discharge increase of 300 gallons per day (gpd). The Commissioners confirmed the availability of 300 gpd capacity. Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve the Change of Use application for 66 Bridge Street as presented with

conditions that the water service to the apt/garage must be connected to the existing service to 66 Bridge Street inside the building and after the meter to ensure all water is metered; and, call the water and sewer office to schedule an inspection prior to backfilling the water and sewer connections. Commissioner Sieg seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The Commissioners reviewed a draft letter from Cole Melendy of Underwood Engineers to OSRAM Sylvania regarding questions he has after his review of their bi-annual report. Commissioner Lewis suggested that Mr. Melendy ask for additional information instead of a "revised report" as indicated in the draft letter. Penny Griffin will inform Mr. Melendy.

The Commissioners reviewed and signed a letter to the owner of 44 Bridge Street clarifying what will be replaced of his service line as part of the Bridge Street sewer main replacement project and the current blockage issue he is having within his building.

A discussion was held regarding the Bridge Street sewer main replacement project. The Commission was discouraged that Daniel's Construction has not yet started sewer installation since their submitted schedule showed construction starting after school break on June 20.

The Commissioners reviewed and authorized the June 26, 2018, meeting minutes; 2018 AP voucher #14 for water in the amount of \$6,257.05 and for sewer in the amount of \$10,359.34; and time cards.

A discussion was held regarding ATV use in the area of Loon Pond and if it affects the water source as it has been a topic at other town board meetings. The Commissioners stated they have not seen any plans. Commissioner Mellen stated that the best way to protect the water source is to purchase property around it however that takes money. John Segedy suggested that the Commissioners try and partner with the Conservation Commission to buy property.

Commissioner Sieg reported that the flows at the West Main Street pump station are the lowest he has seen. He stated that the low flows are allowing him to see some trends that he is looking to investigate further, such as a regular spike in flow between 10pm and 11pm.

The group discussed the recent repair of the water service at Grimes Field that was discussed at the last meeting. Commissioner Mellen stated that he contacted UTS, Inc. and met with a representative and Robbie Beard, of the Parks department, on Friday, July 6 to assess the situation. UTS determined what needed to be replaced; however, the part was not in stock and needed to be ordered. Commissioner Mellen stated that the part was replaced on Wednesday morning, July 11, and it resolved the service issue. Commissioner Mellen credited Paul Dutton for bringing the issue to the Commissioners to assist in getting resolved before the Balloon fest.

Commissioner Sieg motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Penny Griffin, Administrator

Water and Sewer Commissioners Meeting Minutes
Approved by:

Date:

Peter Mellen, Chairman

Chris Sieg

Dave Lewis
Water and Sewer Commissioners