

NEWFIELDS VILLAGE WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes from 07/06/2023

Approved August 7, 2023

Distribution:

Ray Buxton Jr.
Cathy Nelson-Smith
George Drinkwater
Paula Boyle
Josh Scotton
Wendy Chase

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Newfields Village Water & Sewer District was called to order at 7:00 pm on July 6, 2023 at the Water & Sewer District Office, 75 Main Street.

Present: Commissioners Ray Buxton, Catherine Nelson-Smith, George Drinkwater, Systems Operator Josh Scotton, Engineer Paula Boyle and Treasurer Wendy Chase.

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of June 5, 2023 were unanimously approved.

C. Open Issues

1. Conservation Plan.

- a) Calibrating the Source Meters: Due every 3 years. Next calibration deadline is due by the end of year 2024. This is not part of Peter's contract. We may want to add to the job description – coordinate the calibration of the source meters.
- b) Leak Log: Paula said that they applied for a leak log grant and Newfields is on the list but they continue to shift the grant recipients on the list. The grant list will be out next month. Update: Neither Ray, Paula nor Josh has heard from NH DES regarding the leak detention survey.
- c) Emergency Plan: Reviewed annually and updated every 6 years. **The next review is due March 2027.**

2. Sludge Removal. Remove sludge from Lagoons along with piping and old aeration system and replace existing aeration system with a permanent solution. **Update:** The pre-application has been submitted. Paula said Josh will have to start testing for Pfas at the treatment plant in the influent, effluent and sludge. The sludge has been in the lagoons for over 40 years. HTA estimates it will be \$1.6 M to remove the sludge. George said that there are residents in the Deertrees development that are interested in speaking with the Water District about connecting to the water system. Ray said the well out there now is on Bassett Lane and it is not part of Deertrees. Paula said the Commissioners should start thinking about appropriating money the money in 2025. **In Process.**

3. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits.

- a) Small Wastewater Treatment Facility General Permit (WWTFGP) (Village District purview)– **Background:** was issued September 28, 2021 and will become effective December 1, 2021. The Small WWTF General Permit is designed to authorize discharges of wastewater from publicly owned treatment works and other treatment works that treat domestic sewage. The permit establishes effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, reporting requirements and standard conditions for facilities that discharge to fresh and marine waters in MA and NH. We have a small wastewater treatment facility permit in place for the wastewater system. **Update:** The permit states that the testing of Pfas in the influent, effluent and sludge will take effect the first or third calendar quarter following six months after EPA notifies the permittee

that EPA lab validation method is available. Paula suggested to Josh that he should wait to be notified from EPA. Paula we did the 1st part of the CMON requirement was sending the letter to let them know what we are doing for management of the sewer system. The 2nd requirement is due January 1st 2024. John Jackman will start pulling all the info together to make that deadline. **In Process.**

- b) **Great Bay Total Nitrogen General Permit (GBTNGP) (Village District Purview) – Background:** The GBTNGP was issued for 13 eligible wastewater treatment facilities that discharge treated wastewater containing nitrogen within the Great Bay watershed in NH. It was issued on November 24, 2020 and became effective February 1, 2021. The permit establishes total nitrogen effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, reporting requirements and standard conditions for the 13 WWTFs. The discharge of all pollutants other than nitrogen from these WWTFs will continue to be authorized by each WWTS's respective individual NPDES permit. Rather than address this permitting task on a permit-by-permit basis, EPA instead fashioned a general permit designed to comprehensively regulate nitrogen loading from 13 WWTFs in NH on a gross, watershed-wide scale, incorporating an innovative and adaptive approach to achieving water quality standards in the Great Bay estuary through a combination of mandatory load limits at the WWTFs and voluntary nonpoint source nitrogen reductions. **Update:** Josh confirmed with Paula that he is okay with the calculations Peter came up with of using the rolling average to make sure we meet the 16 lbs. per day nitrogen levels. He said it is important to have accurate flow data. The data will come from the SCADA system so the data cannot be manipulated in any way. Josh hasn't done his first report to NH DES yet. **In Process.**
- c) **Stormwater Asset Management MS4 (Town's Purview) – Background:** Stormwater Asset Management ties into the NH Small MS4 General Permit; both under the town's purview. Ray is the liaison as District Commissioner. **Update:** Request for Proposals for stormwater project should be going out soon from the Town.

4. Water Projects

- a) The Water project for PFAS treatment of water we will have to budget for in 2024. Paula gave us a copy of the application for our file.

5. Wastewater Projects

- a) HTA put together two pre-applications for two projects at the wastewater treatment plant to get grant money. 1. SCADA system - Josh said we received quotes from Lavolette, Wright Pierce and A & D Instruments. Lavolette left out the excel report so they included it and updated their quote coming in \$8,000 more than the original quote of \$23,000. We awarded A & D Instruments because they came in at \$26,000. They are coming in the third week in August to get the panel started. Josh reached out to Lavolette about the water treatment plant and they are working on it right now. 2. Chemical Feed Upgrade – Was not budgeted to do this year. Putting in \$40,000 into next year's budget to complete the upgrade.

6. Water Treatment & Supply Study.

- a) **Sustainability Plan: Background:** We received a grant for \$48,000 to look at alternates for a 20 year water sustainability plan. **Update:** Paula said there is a site walk scheduled for

Tuesday, July 7th. They plan to meet at Steve's Diner for breakfast at 7:30 and meet at 9:30 at the Baker Street well site. Dave Edson is coming from Florida to attend the site walk. Paula invited Hutchinson Sealing and Coed to take a tour of the wastewater treatment plant at 11:00 with Josh.

- b) **IPP:** Paula reported on Hutchinson Sealing IPP inspection. They want a rebate on the sewer because they feel a large amount of water gets evaporated in the cooling tower and they don't feel like they should be charged for sewer on the amount of water that goes through the meter because most of it gets evaporated. Paula said the Commissioners will look at a proposal if they submit one. Paula said that they reported a large increase in nitrogen on their last report due June 1st. The nitrogen is higher than it has been in the last 6 months and oil and grease also increased. Paula implored them to look and see if it was an analytical error. Paula said that they have a process that cools plastic in water and that may contribute to *PFAS.

C. New Items

2. Paula submitted all the information to NH DES on the sewer use ordinance. Paula said we need to take a look at the grease trap at the Country Store July 11th.

3. Paula said that she could print out areas of town and show all the services. Paula asked Ray to check the boundaries on the draft map.

4. There was a lightning strike on Baker Street that hit a tree and Josh could not access the building to check the pump and the wells. Scott Buxton cleaned up the mess.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM. The next regular meeting will be on Monday, August, July 7, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Newfields Water & Sewer District Office, 75 Main Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy V. Chase,
Treasurer

*PFAS - Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are chemicals that resist grease, oil, water, and heat. They were first used in the 1940's and are now in hundreds of products including stain- and water-resistant fabrics and carpeting, cleaning products, paints, and fire-fighting foams.