

**BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

July 29, 2014

Carby Street Municipal Office Building, Champagne Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order at 8:27am

Present:

Commissioners: Jim Connors, Chair, Frank MacPherson, and Tony Antonellis

Staff: Todd Korchin, Jeff Bina and Rich Barry

Town of Westwood: Pam Dukeman

Daniel Bailey (Rackemann, Sawyer and Brewster)

Minute recorded by Tish Healey

Commission approved June 3, 2014 meeting minutes

Wall Street Development

- Wall Street Development has requested per the Freedom of Information Act, the Town of Westwood supply a breakdown of sewer connection and inspection fees for the past 10 years. Dan Bailey will contact Lou Petrozzi of Wall Street Development to determine more specifically what Mr. Petrozzi wants.

Pam Dukeman, Town of Westwood Finance Director

- Pam presented the proposed sewer rate increase for FY'15. FY'14 sewer rates increased by 3% and the recommended increase for FY'15 will be 2.5%. With the new rates, the average annual sewer bill will increase from \$605 (FY14) to \$619 (FY15). Commission members approved FY15 rate increase. We will work with Pam Dukeman to draft an informational letter to residents, regarding the sewer rate increase.

FY'15 Sewer Rates

	FY'14 Rates	FY'15 Rates	% Increase
Step 1 (0-25 CCF)	\$5.45	\$5.59	2.57%
Step 2 (25-70 CCF)	\$8.15	\$8.36	2.58%
Step 3 (over 70 CCF)	\$14.60	\$15.00	2.74%
Wells (Quarterly)	\$152.00	\$155.00	1.97%

- The bond interest on the \$1.5 million sewer infrastructure project (borrowed May 14) will amount to \$191.8K this year. Pam recommended that the interest payment be paid out of sewer retained earnings. Tony motioned to approve usage of retained earnings, Frank seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Pam presented literature on MWRA Financial Assistance for sewer projects. Upon approval of the MWRA grant, Westwood would have available phase 9 and phase 10 funds of \$666K and \$441K respectively. The funds would be dispersed as a 75% grant and 25% interest-free loan. The phase 9 funds will be made available during FY '15. Todd and Jeff will put together a list of proposed sewer projects to be reviewed at the next Sewer Meeting. A potential project may develop from the Facility Study of the 10 pump stations, with an estimated \$1.6 million replacement of the pumps and infrastructure.
- Commission would like to review the sewer budget and the current segregation of funds. Information will be reviewed at next Commission Meeting.

Benchmark Project Update

- Development of Assisted Living project being proposed on Clapboardtree Street. The Sewer Commission expressed concern over adding additional flow into the Clapboardtree sewer system. Motion to discuss at next Sewer Commission meeting.
- On the discussions of Benchmark, Commissioner Antonellis recused himself from the matter pending receipt of an opinion from special town counsel with respect to a potential conflict of interest.

Next Meeting- September 10, 2014 at 8:15am

Jim Connors adjourned the meeting at 9:20 am

Approved:

Date 2/27/15 

Sewer Commission, Clerk