

## **WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE MINUTES**

### **Thursday, October 27, 2016, 8:30 AM**

#### **1. Call to Order & Freedom of Information Requirements**

The Freedom of Information Requirements having been met, the meeting was called to order at 8:33 AM. Those present were Committee Members Mark Howard, Bachman Smith and Susan Middaugh (Chair), Staff Members Greg Gress and Jason Blanton, and Island Residents, Cary Matheson and Lindsey Rhodes.

#### **2. Cary Matheson 1908 Central construction issues**

Mr. Matheson was invited to talk to the W&S Committee members about his requests to Greg Gress and Andy Benke to allow his current renter, Ms. Rhodes, a science teacher at SIES, to continue to occupy the rental cottage on this same lot while the main dwelling is demolished and a new home is constructed. Greg Gress explained the current policy: water and sewer lines to the entire lot are shut off at the street prior to demolition and reconnected upon completion of construction. This is for the protection of the Town W&S infrastructure during the construction period in which multiple parties are on the property with heavy equipment, etc., that impact underground structures. The Committee explained the importance of having a set policy for consistent staff decisions. In the past, other owners with two dwellings on a lot have similarly been denied occupancy during construction. The Committee consensus was that this was a staff decision based on established policy.

#### **3. Private Sewer Lateral (PSL) Policy for I&I Reduction**

Greg Gress reviewed the need for an improved policy for remediation and prevention of I&I due to leaking sewer laterals on private property. The Town has approximately 30-40,000 ft. of laterals compared with 80,000 ft. of sewer mains. Phase I of the Town I&I Reduction program addressed leakage in sewer mains and sewer laterals owned by the Town - from the sewer mains to the cutoff valve at the property line. However, significant leakage can occur in the sewer lateral segments from the property line to the home and this is the responsibility of the owner. The W&S Committee previously considered this issue, most recently in January, 2015. Mr. Gress gave examples of policy options, such as Leak Free Certification, adopted by CWS and Oakland, CA. The Committee will move forward on this issue with a 6-month target date for completion.

#### **4. Rate Study Report by Raftelis Consultant: Section 3 Revenue Requirements Financial planning 2017 - 2021**

The Rate Study report was revised to correct some numerical typographical errors and also include more detailed information in the Tables for restaurant examples. In addition, Greg Gress went over more examples from a detailed list of impacted properties including residential (apartment buildings, rental properties, second house on lot) and non-residential properties (commercial restaurants, shops and offices, churches, national park, school). A letter is being sent out to the 110 impacted customers advising them of

the possible change and inviting questions and input at the November 7 Council Workshop. The W&S Committee will continue to work on this issue.

**5. Update on continuing items**

- a. **FEMA Grant Phase I:** The Phase I application was submitted to S.C. State and forwarded on to the Atlanta Regional FEMA office.
- b. **I & I Reduction Program Phase II:** The Town will need to make a decision soon regarding the application for a SRF Revenue Bond. Other municipalities are seeking these funds.
- c. **Poe Ave sewer line replacement:** This project is included (partially) in the SRF application. If the I&I Phase II project is placed on hold, the Poe Avenue project needs to proceed with alternative funding estimated at 250-300K if done in-house.
- d. **Water Utility fence bid:** Bids are due Nov. 1
- e. **Poe Park survey:** The requested, more detailed survey, has not yet been received.

**6. Communications / Additional Items from WWTF Manager, Greg Gress**

CWS has requested a meeting with Town Staff regarding purchase/rental of Town property as a location for a pumping station for a CWS water line to Mt. Pleasant.

**7. The next W&S Committee meeting:** This will be Thursday, November 17, 2016, at 8:30 AM at the W&S Dept. Office.

**8. The meeting was adjourned** at 10:45 AM on a motion by Bachman Smith, second by Susan Middaugh, passed unanimously, 2/0.

**Pending Items (to be considered in future meetings)**

- a. CWS contract revisions – in progress
- b. Development of a Cost Recovery Program
- c. W&S billing software replacement - in progress
- d. ASR: Aquifer Storage and Recovery
- e. Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant for submersible pumps