# TOWN OF SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE SEWER COMMISSION

FRANCIS X. WHITE, CHAIRMAN LAWRENCE H. DUFAULT, CLERK MICHAEL J. MERCADANTE, MEMBER

JAMES T. LAPLANTE, JR., SUPERINTENDENT



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## Minutes of Meeting & Public Hearing held September 22, 2020

Meeting of the Board of Sewer Commissioners - Audioconference Broadcasted Live from McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA. (Reports are on file at the Utilities & Facilities Office)

Frank White called the meeting to order at 5:08pm and announced that the meeting is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Bakers Executive order. In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus. We are currently meeting with a combination of members present and remote. All votes will be taken by roll call in accordance with regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law.

Members present: Francis "Frank" White

Lawrence "Larry" Dufault Michael "Mike" Mercadante

Sewer staff present: James Laplante, Jr., Supt.

Debra Graves, Sr. Clerk

# Vote to approve Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2020.

A motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2020 (Mike/Larry) passed 3/0 with a roll call vote: Larry-yes, Mike-yes, Frank-yes.

#### Sewer Moratorium:

• Sewer Commissioners discussed and implemented a sewer connection moratorium. Moratorium will have a maximum flow design not to exceed 440 gpd (gallons per day) for any connection (Commercial, Industrial, or Residential). The Moratorium is an attempt to reduce flows to the treatment facility and comply with DEP/EPA regulations on permit design flow. Sugden Building and Rapscallion Brewery Waste will be grandfathered. Mike motion for a sewer moratorium, second by Frank all in favor Larry, passed 3/0 with a roll call vote: Mike-yes, Larry-yes, Frank-yes.

#### Sugden Building:

• No design flow data has been submitted to the Commissioners from engineering, could do removal of I&I (4-1 ratio) or pay connection and I & I fees. Sewer Commissioners require design flow rate for Apartments and Restaurant to calculate fees. Commission Chairman to meet with developer to discuss.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:04pm. Motion by Larry, Seconded by Mike, and in favor, Frank.

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Motion by Larry to go into Public Hearing at 6:04pm to discuss Sewer Rates, seconded by Frank, all in favor, Mike. passed 3/0 with a roll call vote: Mike-yes, Larry-yes, Frank-yes.

### Discuss Sewer Rates Increase:

- Sewer Commissioners discussed and debated increased Engineering cost & upgrade cost.
- Capital costs of performing particular upgrade cost (solids building roof, maintenance garage, etc.). This would reduce long term costs of upgrade by millions of dollars.
- Pay down of existing debt schedule, to reduce cost to rate payers.

Sewer Commissioners decided to table the rate hearing until the next meeting.

Public Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm motion by Larry, Second by Frank and in favor, Mike.

The Board voted and approved minutes on 10/21/2020