

TOWN OF DARIEN SEWER COMMISSION
2 RENSRAW ROAD - TOWN HALL
DARIEN, CT 06820-5397
TELEPHONE (203) 656-7382



ROBERT A. RIITH, CHAIRMAN
CRAIG J. FLAHERTY, P.E.
ROCCO GENOVESE
M. REESE HUTCHISON III
PETER VAN WINKLE, ESQ.

**TOWN OF DARIEN SEWER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
4:30 P.M. Tuesday October 4, 2016, Room 206 of Darien Town Hall,
2 Renshaw Road, Darien, CT 06820**

ATTENDANCE: Robert Riith, Chairman;
Craig Flaherty, Vice Chairman;
Peter Van Winkle;
M. Reese Hutchison

ABSENT: Rocco Genovese.

STAFF: Edward L. Gentile Jr., Director, DPW;
Darren Oustafine, Assistant Director, DPW.

OTHERS: Paul Harris

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Riith called the meeting to order at 4:30 p. m. A quorum was present.

**2. APPROVAL OF DARIEN SEWER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6,
2016**

Page 1 – correct to “the first public hearing on Settlers Trail...”
Page 2 – correct to “Salem Straits”
Page 3 – correct to “now per the directive...”
Page 3 – correct to “information on costs yet,”

** **MR FLAHERTY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2016.**
** **MR. VAN WINKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
** **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**3. SETTLERS TRAIL, CLOCKS LANE, SEWER EXTENSION, CONSULTANT SELECTION.
ATTACHMENT. DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

** **MR. VAN WINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE TIGHE & BOND AS THE CONSULTANT
SELECTION**
** **MR. HUTCHISON SECONDED THE MOTION.**
** **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. SETTLERS TRAIL, CLOCKS LANE, SEWER EXTENSION, AUTHORIZE TRANSFER OF UP TO \$60,000 FOR DESIGN SERVICES FEES FROM EXISTING ACCOUNT. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Mr. Gentile stated that bonds would not be issued before the end of the year. The earliest that the bond can be approved. He stated that he is requesting that the Sewer Commission authorize this transfer out of the Collection Rehabilitation Account now with the understanding that it will be put back in after the project is bonded and the \$60,000 is approved by the RTM.

- ** MR. VAN WINKLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF UP TO \$60,000 FOR DESIGN SERVICES FEES FROM EXISTING ACCOUNT.**
- ** MR. HUTCHISON SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. 465 MANSFIELD AVENUE, J BARON LAND COMPANY AND THOMAS FENG SANITARY SEWER LATERAL DISCONNECT AND RECONNECT.

Mr. Oustafine stated that this is a unique circumstance and requested a motion stating that the commission is not going to revisit the pro rata share payment as it pertains to each developer's agreement. Each developer's agreement remains unchanged and any future connections or changing connections has nothing to do with a payment that was already made.

In this unique circumstance, where we find it prudent and feasible to consider an alternative lateral hookup, and that it has been previously approved, that no developer fee be paid because the developer had paid previously.

- ** MR. HUTCHISON MOVED TO APPROVE, IN THIS UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE WHERE IT HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED, WHERE WE FIND IT PRUDENT AND FEASIBLE TO CONSIDER AN ALTERNATIVE LATERAL HOOKUP, THAT NO DEVELOPER FEE BE PAID, BECAUSE THE DEVELOPER HAD PAID PREVIOUSLY.**
- ** MR. VAN WINKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH ONE ABSTENTION (MR. FLAHERTY.)**

6. SEWER USEER FEE APPEAL. THOMAS & ERMA MOORE, 37 POINT O'WOODS RD. ATTACHMENT. DISCUSSION AND ACTION.

Chairman Riith and Mr. Flaherty stated that more information needs to be gathered on this item before any action can be taken.

- ** MR. FLAHERTY MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM.**
- ** MR. VAN WINKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. LOCUST HILL SEWER EXTENSION AFFIDAVIT OF COSTS. ATTACHMENT.
DISCUSSION AND ACTION.

Mr. Oustafine stated that he had Ms. Glassmeyer remove some non-sewer related expenses on previously submitted affidavit and that he advised Ms. Glassmeyer that she could postpone submission of this affidavit because she is still incurring costs associated with sewers and there will be future costs such as filing of maps and easements. Mr. Oustafine stated that Ms. Glassmeyer acknowledged that she would incur additional expenses but preferred to have the affidavit approved as submitted and she is not interested in taking credit for expenses generated in the future.

- ** MR. FLAHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE THE LOCUST HILL SEWER EXTENSION AFFIDAVIT OF COSTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$841,721.05.
- ** MR. HUTCHISON SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. 68 SALEM STRAITS POOL HOUSE SEWER LATERAL WAIVER. ATTACHMENT.
DISCUSSION AND ACTION.

The owner put all utilities for the pool house in the same trench. It was not inspected by the town. Mr. Oustafine has written up a declaration and town counsel used this to make a release and hold harmless agreement. The lawyers took the facts that were in his initial write up and changed it to the current version in front of you. If it is approved, he will forward to property owners counsel for review and approval and for property owner to sign it.

Mr. Hutchison stated that on item number 4, "is made as a compromise and" should be stricken out.

- ** MR. HUTCHISON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE WITH CHANGES, AND THE SEWER COMMISSION WILL ACCEPT ANY CHANGES THAT THE RTM MAKES.
- ** MR. FLAHERTY SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

SUPERINTENDEDENTS REPORT

Stony Brook & Nearwater Pump Station Pump Replacement Status

Mr. Gentile reported that work on the last two pumps (one at Nearwater and the other at Stony Brook) will begin next Tuesday. We had an issue with one of the bills. With the pumps that are already installed, we had a charge that was twice what we normally get. Having all of the pumps in place will result in savings of money in electricity. With these last pumps installed, both stations will each have 3 new style pumps in place.

Sewer User Fees Billing (Mailed September 28, 2016)

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Mr. Gentile stated that sewer user fee bills were mailed out of September 28, 2016. He stated that for the next few weeks, he will be handling three or four calls a day in response to the notice on the bills. In most cases, residents do not need to take action, but some should call a plumber to come take a look at the house.

I/I Study Expansion

Mr. Gentile stated that he would like to expand the previously performed I/I Study. He would like to identify where we are getting larger flows and put meters in the pipes. When it rains there is a quick spike and then a drop in sewer discharge following the end of a storm that is remarkable. He stated that smoke tests are a great way to identify where there is an illicit connection to sewer service. Discussion followed on what tools can be used to identify illicit connections, and what can be done once it is identified. Mr. Gentile stated that the Goodwives River Area is a good place for expansion of the study.

NEW BUSINESS

**** MR. FLAHERTY MOVED TO ADD THE KNOBEL HILL SEWER EASEMENT TO THE AGENDA.**

**** MR. HUTCHISON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Oustafine provided copies of the easement which was prepared by Ms. Glassmeyers attorney Robert Maslan, for sewer commission review.

**** MR. VAN WINKLE MOVED TO REFER TO TOWN COUNSEL AND ACCEPT ANY MODIFICATIONS MADE TO THE EASEMENT BY TOWN COUNSEL.**

**** MR. FLAHERTY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. VAN WINKLE MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MR. HUTCHISON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Blaney
Telesco Secretarial Services.

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