

TOWN OF DARIEN SEWER COMMISSION
2 RENSHAW ROAD - TOWN HALL
DARIEN, CT 06820-5397
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CRAIG J. FLAHERTY, P.E., CHAIRMAN
ROBERT HILL, VICE CHAIRMAN
M. REESE HUTCHISON III, SECRETARY
SUSAN R. CAMERON
PETER VAN WINKLE, ESQ.

**TOWN OF DARIEN SEWER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES,
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3RD 2023, 4:30 PM – 7:00 PM
IN PERSON, ROOM 206, 2 RENSHAW ROAD-TOWN HALL, DARIEN, CT 06820
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION VIA EMAIL OR IN PERSON**

ATTENDANCE: Craig Flaherty, P.E. Chairman
Robert Hill, Vice-Chair
Reese Hutchison, Secretary
Peter Van Winkle

STAFF: Edward L. Gentile Jr. P.E. Director of Public Works
Darren Oustafine, P.E. Assistant Director of Public Works

ABSENT: Susan Cameron

OTHER: Monica McNally
Takeyoshi & Tomoko Nara
Ted Olson
Kate Perez
Andy Soumelidis P.E.
Robert F. Maslan Jr. Esq.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 4:33 P.M. by Mr. Flaherty. A quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF DARIEN SEWER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6TH 2022.
DISCUSSION AND ACTION.

Meeting minutes approved as submitted.

**** MR. VAN WINKLE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.**

**** MR. HILL SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED 3-1 WITH MR. HUTCHISON ABSTAINING.**

3. SEWER USER FEE APPEALS, DISCUSSION AND ACTION.

a) 1 JUNIPER ROAD, TAKEYOSHI & TOMOKO NARA

Mr. and Ms. Nara had multiple toilets running during the Nov-March period and that resulted in an increase in their water consumption. Although there are repairs to the toilets the water consumption did not seem to drop back down after the October repairs, to the usual consumption the Nara's had. The appeal was tabled pending more information from Aquarion's water consumption read. The Aquarion invoice for December 2022 showed the water consumption did return to normal use for the Naras.

**** MR. HILL MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT STAFFS SUGGESTED APPEAL FOR \$330.24.**

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

b) 6 THORNDALE CIRCLE, TED OLSON

The location is on a water meter reading. Both 3 & 6 Thorndale are included in the billing for list # 8448. Mr. Olson stated Stamford Hospital had to flush out THE MRI machine and that caused the consumption to increase. This is not a normal occurrence but had to be done. This did cause the water consumption to increase, although the consumption increased throughout May-October. The sewer department had Mr. Taccone go out and perform a dye test (letter included in appeal), the dye test showed that the water that drained through the MRI did in fact go through the sewer system. The sewer commission did not have enough information to make a decision on the appeal.

**** MR. HUTCHISON A MOTION TO TABLE THE APPEAL UNTIL NEXT MONTH.**

**** MR. VAN WINKLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

c) BAYWATER PROPERTIES, KATE PEREZ

Kate Perez from Baywater Properties contacted the sewer department regarding her sewer service charges. The locations were disconnected from Sewer in August of 2021. The sewer was not connected until July and therefore any of the water reported from Aquarion did not go into the town sewer system, but any location connected to sewer will receive an invoice for the minimum charge. Going forward the locations should have charges applied for the 2022-2023 billing period.

**** MR. HILL MADE A MOTION TO CHARGE EACH ACCOUNT (1034 BPR, 37 CORBIN, 15 CORBIN) THE MINIMUM CHARGE \$267.36 FOR THIS YEAR.**

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

d) 3 TURNABOUT LANE, CATINA ASPIAZU

Ms. Aspiazu contacted the sewer department regarding her sewer service charges. Ms. Aspiazu stated there was a leak and that leak was repaired and an adjustment from Aquarion was received.

**** MR. HILL MADE A MOTION TO TABLE THE APPEAL UNTIL THE NEXT MONTH WITH THE CONDITION COMMISSION IS PROVIDED MORE INFORMATION, THOROUGH DESCRIPTION OF LEAK, ASSESSMENT OF REPAIR AND ASSESSMENT OF WHERE THE WATER WENT**

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

****AGENDA TAKEN OUT OF ORDER**

7. 7 SEDGEWICK AVENUE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The capacity analysis is still in process and Mr. Soumelidis and Mr. Maslan wanted to get the commissioners feedback at this point. Mr. Soumelidis presented the Town map that is a part of the Arcadis report that delineates certain sewer sheds for the town, in Mechanic Street, lower portion of the sewer shed. Two points of concern were Mechanic Street and Boston Post Road.

At the underpass of the train tracks, there is a manhole where Leroy upper, lower Mansfield and Mechanic all converge at this point and all tie into the Boston Post Road.

Mr. Hill stated that Leroy upper goes down through Kona then goes through Rocaton goes down to Tanglewood trail to the West Ave pump station on West Avenue then goes under Bailey then under the bridge. Mr. Soumelidis stated the meter flow connection to Mechanic Street doesn't seem like an issue. The proposal, as it stands is currently 22 units. 14 one bedroom and eight two bedroom coming up with a flow of 4500 gallons per day, which is .007 CFS which would be the flow from the development.

This location was a bank, which had limited flow of approximately 250 gallons per day. The problematic areas is the manhole connection where all three sewer sheds connect. Mr. Soumelidis will confirm if Leroy is in it or not. With no development, the line is under capacity by a decent amount. It's in the range of metered flow approximately 5 CFS. Chairman Flaherty asked, if the Mechanic street main which just takes Mechanics streets sewers shed, which would be the tie in point has capacity. The capacity of that pipe is based on the calculations, and what the meter recorded in its peak of our meter reading period, the meter recorded higher than the capacity of that pipe. Chairman Flaherty stated, the sewer system should be able to handle the current land uses. If it is sealed perfectly. It appears as though based on a calculation that Mechanic Street sewer has capacity, but it appears as though the sewer under the railroad does not have capacity.

Mr. Soumelidis stated that the sewer systems in Mechanic Street appears to have capacity although it floods during periods of heavy rain. There was also discussion on potentially designing a retention system for sewage from proposed development to allow sewage to be discharged over a longer period of time avoiding peak flow rates in sewer system.

The commission discussed peer reviews being done by our qualified consultants. The commission requested more information to be presented to staff and then have staff submit copies to commission. More information is needed before any approval from the commission.

4. 25 GARDINER STREET, JAMES & CHRISTINA MELLIN- BILLING ADJUSTMENT

Letter that would accompany invoices for 25 Gardiner revised with the information requested by the commissioners. Commissioners reviewed and agreed to send letter.

**** NO MOTION MADE.**

5. 246 NOROTON AVENUE, GRAVITY LATERAL INSPECTION

Commissioners reviewed the letter staff wrote for residents at 246 Noroton Avenue. Commissioners approved the letter and requested a copy also be included in the lateral file.

**** NO MOTION MADE.**

6. THORNDALE CIRCLE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT. DISCUSSION AND ACTION.

Staff is trying to work with Arcadis to have them do third party reviews.

8. SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

a. OKHS PIPE LINING

Completed over a month ago and in process of working on manhole replacements, manhole lining and working on lateral lining.

b. CCTV 8 MILES ANNUAL PROGRAM (NWM)

Work was completed just after Christmas as part of CMOM program.

c. STONY BROOK (FLOOD PROOFING)

. Flood gates purchased for 2 pump stations

d. ABANDONED PIPE, RENSRAW, CRIMMINS, STONY BROOK PS.

Has been completely blocked off. Put a stopper in and will continue to monitor. Soon there will be digging in the manhole, the pipe will be cut and both sides will be blocked up soon.

e. CORBIN DRIVE SEWER

Blocked off manholes and filled with concrete. The pipe has been abandoned.

f. WOODWAY/HOYT

Spoke with owner waiting on surveyor as soon as easement and as built will be sent over

g. STS MEETING IN DECEMBER

Scheduled for next week. Waiting to hear back from third party engineer for STS to let staff know what day works. Annual report based on the consent decree to annualize and improve the sewer system.

9. NEW BUSINESS

**** MR. HILL MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO NEW BUSINESS.**

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Hill had some questions regarding the I&I fund in other towns

Chairman Flaherty told Mr. Hill that he would calculate the information and pass it along.

10. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. VAN WINKLE MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Penny Apazidis, Post Meeting Remote Recording Secretary