



**PRINCETON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE**  
**AND OPERATIONS**  
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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
*of the*  
**PRINCETON SEWER OPERATING COMMITTEE**

June 2, 2021

The Meeting of the Princeton Sewer Operating Committee (PSOC) was convened at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 via Virtual Meeting/Zoom Conference. D. Goldfarb opened the meeting in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Section 5, Chapter 231, P.L. 275. In conformance with the requirements of the Law, Notice was provided of the date, time and location of this regular meeting by posting a copy of the adopted Schedule of Regular Meetings in Monument Hall, and Witherspoon Building, by mailing copies to the Trenton Times, Princeton Packet, Town Topics and by filing a copy in the Office of Clerk of Princeton. Adequate notice was provided to the public and to all parties concerned.

**PRESENT:** David Goldfarb, Valerie Haynes, Eve Niedergang  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Bernie Hvozdovic, Administrator; Andrew Filippi, Sewer Design Engineer; Dominick Itzi, Sewer Operations Manager; Dan Van Mater, Public Works Director (left at 9:45 a.m.); Janice Most, Secretary

**ABSENT:**

**PUBLIC:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No Minutes presented to approve.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

1. Draft Ordinance: Sanitary Sewer System, the Municipal Separate Storm Water Sewers and Emergencies and Amending the “Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974.”
2. 2017-2020 Sanitary Sewer Flow Meter Analysis.

3. Agenda Item #9–Proposed Update to Sewer Connect/Disconnect/Repair Regulations and Agenda Item #10-Proposed Update to Grease Trap Regulations - can be treated as one Agenda Item.
4. D. Goldfarb stated that Agenda Items need to be presented to the Secretary one week prior to the scheduled meeting.

### **Pricing and Installation of a Hydraulic In-Channel Grinder at the North Ridge Pumping Station**

D. Itzi stated that there is a need to have a grinder at the North Ridge Pump Station to break down the solids that are coming through the system and accumulating at the top of the wet well which needs monthly cleaning given the six to eight inches of solids constantly sitting on the of the system; normal operations would require twice a year. The preferred grinder is the “Muffin Monster” through Watermark Enterprises for \$39,000; the money is available in Capital and the bid will be prepared to supply and install or just install. More information will be available at the next meeting.

Discussion: the increased solid wastes of three ply paper towels, personal hygiene wipes and medical waste can be attributed to Princeton House and the assisted living facility Brandywine, Acorn Glen could also be contributing; as a public relations effort D. Itzi will reach out to the Director of the Hospital, and the Administrators of the assisted living facilities to inform them of what is being found in the sanitary sewer system and how it its attributed to their facilities pointing out the cost of remediation efforts.

### **Long Range Plan for the Design and Reconstruction of all Pump Stations**

D. Itzi stated that Request for Proposals for reconstruction for the All Saints Pump Station, Crooked Tree Pump Station, Herrontown Pump Station, and Pond View Pump Station are in the design phase for the 2022 Budget. The Stations have limited access, need truck access and, are showing end of life issues as they were constructed between 1965-1967. The Herrontown Station needs immediate attention as the concrete base is sinking; this Station will likely be reconstructed before Pond View.

Discussion: are all Stations at end of life; instead of reconstruction consider alternatives of upgrades for other Stations; need to find a way to elevate the Mercer Station; analyzing all Stations in the design phase. D. Goldfarb noted that R. Hough was working on an access easement with the developer next door to Pond View.

### **Upgrading the Alarm Monitoring System at the Pump Stations with SCADA Systems**

D. Itzi stated that the alarm monitoring systems at the pump stations need upgrading. SCADA is

a cell based program that gives real time information; it captures information needed when the alarm goes out. Cost is \$2,500 per Station; he is looking to include this upgrade in the 2022 Budget.

Discussion: Verizon is starting to discontinue copper line service; cellular based system is needed to monitor remotely; Stony Brook has a system that works well, D. Itzi will reach out to Stony Brook to gather information on the systems used there; Cloud based is mainly for monitoring pump stations and data acquisition.

### **Review of the New Operations and Maintenance Manual**

D. Itzi stated that we need to comply with the Manual and a plan is in place for getting “caught up;” there are three additional employees to help in this effort.

Discussion: D. Goldfarb stated that Stony Brook submits monthly reports; it is a DEP requirement that all deviations are reported to Stony Brook; we should start doing monthly reports to Stony Brook; keep on Agenda for future ideas and compliance updates.

A. Filippi stated that in the past the SOC banned garbage disposals, this is not true. Residential homes can have a garbage disposal; dwellings with three or more units and commercial entities cannot have a garbage disposal.

Discussion: currently there is no composting program, the only choice is to send trash to the landfill; due to new technology garbage disposals are better able to handle the waste.

### **Long Range Plan for Sewer Repairs and Maintenance**

A. Filippi shared a spreadsheet depicting the Capital Budget from 2013 to 2023 showing past expenditures to a ten year progression. He explained the items, descriptions, and anticipated future yearly costs.

Discussion: ten year plan is good but need a five year plan with more specifics and realistic numbers to be able to work into the five year Capital Plan; need practical impact on sewer fees; can use 2021 fees as a baseline; institutions pay also, not just residents; how much to bond and how much to residents; a significant increase has been ignored but would benefit all as there is growth and more density in town with more concentrated development; more buildings equals more tax base for collection costs.

### **Infiltration and Inflow (I/I Program)**

A. Filippi shared the 2018 Sanitary Sewer Flow Meter Analysis prepared by Van Note Harvey showing and explaining: 2017, 2018, 2019 Meters; 2018 Flow Meter Locations; 2018 Metering

Period with 24-Hour Rainfall; 5- Minute Flows with Rain; 1- Hour Rolling Average Flows; 1- Hour Rolling Average, Normalized to Length; 1-Hour Rolling Average, Normalized, No Base Flow; 1-Hour Rolling Average, Net Flows; 1-Hour Rolling Average, Net Flows, Normal; 1- Hour, Net Flows, Normalized, No Base; Full Period; Full Period, Normalized; Full Period, Normalized, No Base Flow; Full Period, Net Flows; Full Period, Net Flows, Normalized; Conclusions.

More explanation of each carried to the July meeting.

## **OTHER**

1. A. Filippi will email the Draft Ordinance: Sanitary Sewer System, the Municipal Separate Storm Water Sewers and Emergencies and Amending the “Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974.” to all Committee Members for comment via email prior to the July meeting.

Discussion: an example was given of a contradiction in the Ordinance and the Operations and Maintenance Manual - all policies need to be consistent; update the Ordinance to amend the Manual for consistency.

2. The July 7, 2021 meeting was rescheduled to June 30, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. via Virtual Meeting/Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Most, Secretary  
Princeton Sewer Operating Committee

Adopted: June 30, 2021