



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

December 7, 2022

The meeting of the Princeton Sewer Committee (PSC) was convened at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 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 and by mailing copies to the Trenton Times, Princeton Packet, Town Topics and by filing a copy in the Office of the Clerk of Princeton. Adequate notice was provided to the public and to all parties concerned.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Goldfarb, Valerie Haynes, Eve Niedergang

ALSO PRESENT: Andrew Filippi, Sewer Design Engineer; Jeff Hughes, SOC Foreman; Dominick Itzi, Sewer Operations Manager; Jim Purcell, Assistant Engineer; Deanna Stockton, Deputy Administrator/Engineer; Janice Most, Secretary

ABSENT:

PUBLIC:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

No amendments to the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

E. Niedergang moved to approve the November 2, 2022 Minutes as amended.

V. Haynes seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

SUNSHINE 2023

E. Niedergang moved to approve Sunshine 2023 as presented.

D. Goldfarb seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

Trunk Line Rehabilitation Program

D. Itzi stated that the December 8, 2022 meeting with H2M may be postponed; evaluations will start for the 30 identified maintenance holes; waiting for H2M evaluation for detailed focus.

Discussion: hydrogen sulfite (corrosive) shows areas of deterioration by accumulating in areas that have more deterioration; system has low points; part of the design will be that pipes are not as low.

Pump Station Design and Reconstruction Update

D. Itzi stated that a meeting was held with Arcadis on November 29, 2022 and they will be in Princeton on December 8, 2022 to do soil sample drillings.

Discussion: final design draft will be available end of year/beginning of next; going with submersible pumps as currently they are not; submersed pumps are located within the wet well, it is not a flood proofing mechanism; benefits of submersible are they are easier to get in/out and fewer structures to maintain; the current pumps fail if fully submerged; need to protect the system from getting overwhelmed; stations will be fully operational during storm events; Mercer Road flooding – do not want clean water pumping to Stony Brook; flood water gets into leaks upstream; the final report will be early February.

Infiltration and Inflow (I&I Program)

A. Filippi stated that final touches are being made to the bid documents and technical specifications for Mini System 35; going to advertise on December 16, 2022 with bid opening in early January 2023.

Discussion: Mini system 36 has highest infiltration from 2018; Consultant will begin design in 2024; nothing to report on Capital Project Plan; Capital Plan items in 2023 budget are in review and if not approved will be in 2024.

Thoughts for the future: trunk line assessment is underway; pump stations are in pre-design phase; basins for pumps stations; inspecting pipes throughout town for rehabilitation or replacing; large contributors in a mini system not identified; data for pump stations and Stony Brook that points to various meteorological conditions; unidentified contributors need to be located; work off meter data that shows issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

OTHER

Autumn Hill Sewer Extension

D. Stockton stated that she did follow-up with the Mayor and the Municipal Attorney will draft a response to the residents of Autumn Hill and the answer stays at “no” unless there was an Assessment to affected property owners.

Taken from November 2, 2022 PSC Minutes - *D. Goldfarb stated that at the October 24, 2022 Mayor and Council meeting, residents from the Autumn Hill neighborhood made a presentation for a Municipally funded sanitary sewer main extension for the Autumn Hill neighborhood.*

Discussion: the principle still stands - this request is not consistent with past practice where costs are borne by the benefitted property owners; the Autumn Hill residents have to present a plan to the Sewer Engineer and pay for the cost of the plan; one or possibly more septic's could be failing and the cost of septic is property owner responsibility; need exact number of homes wanting to hook into sewer; residents did not understand why the Municipality could not go out to bid for their project; there needs to be an approved design and there needs to be an Assessment Ordinance in place before going out to bid; can take Mayor Freda's September 26, 2022 and use it as a guideline for regulations that can be adopted.

A. Filippi read from Ordinance 2021-35: “(d) The cost to design, permit, and construct a sewer extension shall be wholly borne by the party or parties seeking the sewer extension.”

Zoom vs. In Person Meetings

Discussion took place concerning Zoom vs. in person meetings. The consensus was to continue meeting via Zoom.

Meeting Schedule Changes

Via consensus:

The next regularly scheduled January 4, 2023 meeting is cancelled.

The next regularly scheduled February 1, 2023 meeting is postponed until February 16, 2023.

Adjourn

At 9:50 a.m. V. Haynes moved to adjourn. E. Niedergang seconded.

The Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. via Virtual Meeting/Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Most, Secretary
Princeton Sewer Committee