

**Minutes
Town of Vinalhaven
Sewer Commissioners**

**Tuesday, July 25, 2023
1:00 PM**

1. **Roll Call** – Sewer Commissioners Pam Alley, Patrick Trainor, Pam Grumbach, and Bruce Cohen; Mike Ames and Mike Martin for Maine Water; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton and Deputy Clerk Elizabeth Bunker
2. **Minutes – Approve the minutes from the Wednesday, April 25, 2023 Meeting** – Motion by Pam Alley to approve the minutes from April 25, 2023. Seconded by Patrick Trainor. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.
3. **Correspondence & Business** - None
4. **Operations Reports – Maine Water Company** – Mike Martin reported for Maine Water that they are treating more water, but it's cleaner! Sludge was removed earlier this spring and they are scheduled to come again this fall. Pump stations need to be cleaned. This was usually SeptiTech, but they are no longer providing this service. Mike Martin will check with Interstate.
5. **Financial Reports – Town Manager, Marjorie E. Stratton**
 - a. **2024 Wastewater Budget** – There was discussion on power cost seeing a large increase. There was discussion about continuing to replace one pump/year with the help of Dwyer's Plumbing. There was discussion on sludge removal and issues with finding suitable disposal sites. Juniper Ridge has been being monitored very closely. There was discussion on a rate increase to cover expenses.
6. **User Issues**
 - a. **Island Village Childcare Waiver** – There was discussion on setting a precedent by waiving this fee. The Commission recommends denying the waiver and suggests quarterly payments over one year.
 - b. **Sewer Lien Update** – 11 liens were filed last Thursday (July 20, 2023).
 - c. **Sewer Hook-up Loans Update** – Marjorie has been working with Pam Blackman to close out sewer hook-up loans and attach them to the property tax bill.
7. **Report of Members** - None
8. **Adjourn** – Motion by Pam Grumbach to adjourn at 1:58pm. Seconded by Pam Alley. Vote 4/0/0. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Clerk

Next Meeting: October 24, 2023 @11am