

Minutes

Town of Vinalhaven Sewer Commissioners

Tuesday, October 24, 2023 11:00 AM

1. **Roll Call** – Sewer Commissioners: Pam Alley, Pam Grumbach, and Bruce Cohen; Maine Water Company Employees Ethan Warren, Mike Ames, and Mike Cummons; Town Manager Marjorie Stratton
2. **Minutes** – Approve the minutes from July 25, 2023 meeting – Motion by Pam A., Second by Pam G. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried
3. **Correspondence & Business** - None
4. **Operations Reports** – Maine Water Company (Mike Ames)
 - Introduction of new Maine Water Company employee Ethan Warren
 - Things are operating normally in system
 - UV System shut down in October per DEP Permit.
 - Two pumps need to be replaced in system in treatment facility
 - Sludge removal primary tanks to be cleaned out by interstate this month
 - Generator maintenance completed last week. No issues found.
 - Meeting was held with Maine Water, Jim Dwyer, Marjorie, and Pam A. regarding replacement of 6 pumps. Top priority is fire station pump (one pump down). Trying to repair pump instead of replace. \$12,000 for replacement, \$3,000-\$4,000 for repair. To be covered by reserve pumps.
 - Bruce asked about another reminder in The Wind about not flushing wipes, grease, or other items down the toilet/drain. Maine Water to provide communication to Marjorie
 - Maine Water continuing to meet monthly with Dwyers
5. **Financial Reports** – Town Manager Marjorie Stratton
 - Quarterly bills just went out, so will wait to see revenue next month
 - Power costs up slightly
 - Additional reserve put in budget for capital expenditures
 - Maine Water and Marjorie to meet during next budget cycle
 - Closing out 2022-2023 budget for audit purposes
 - Island Village Childcare applied for waive of connection fee but denied by select board.
 - Lien process has been started – no one had recorded any liens from 2014 to present. 2 rounds of liens now. First foreclosure in process.
 - Pam Alley request to look into Baileyville situation (ability to shutoff water for non-payment of sewer).
 - Carrying about \$8,000 in loans owed by sewer customers. Marjorie wants to close out. Mike C. to ask Pam Blackman about software issue preventing this.

- Sewer finances in good shape
- 50 Main Street no water consumption from meter reads. Maine Water to follow up
- Brewery in town – change of use discussed. Marjorie to look at water use

6. Other business

- Pam G – Islander Lane sewer pump issue that affected a customer. Mike discussed situation and that the issue was waiting on a pump.
- Next meeting to be held at January 23rd

7. Adjourn – Motion made by Pam A. Second by Pam G. Vote 3/0/0. Motion carried.