

TOWN OF MANSFIELD ▪ FOUR CORNERS WATER AND SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes ▪ March 10, 2015
Town Council Chambers

Members Present: K. Rawn (chair), J. Coite (representing T. Tussing), P. Ferrigno (arrived at 6:46 PM), V. Raymond, M. Reich

Staff Present: Carrington, Dilaj, Painter

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Rawn.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes was held during public comment upon arrival of Ferrigno at 6:48 PM.

January 6, 2015 Minutes – Coite MOVED, Reich seconded to approve the minutes as drafted. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Mr. Hossack provided a statement that the property owners that will benefit from the Four Corners Sanitary Sewer Project should bear the cost of the project.

Mr. Freudman asked questions concerning the size of the piping and possible sleeving for the proposed forcemain between the Jensen's Pumping Station and the University of Connecticut collection system.

Ms. Supernant asked questions regarding the status of the agreement between UConn and Storrs Center, the landfill easement language and its impact to the project, a potential conflict of interest for one of the members of the Four Corners Water and Sewer Advisory Committee, and a question on the conservation easement for UConn.

Ms. Wassmundt expressed concern regarding the changes in assessment and a potential conflict of interest for one of the members of the Four Corners Water and Sewer Advisory Committee.

Old Business

- a. **Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Planning.** Coite provided an update on the water project, noting a Notice of Tentative Determination to Approve an Application for Diversion of Water Permit was published on December 16, 2014. A petition, with greater than 25 signatures, requested a public hearing be held regarding the Application for Diversion Permit and such the process for the public hearing in underway. Coite indicated a site visit was completed earlier in the day with the adjudicator and interested parties visiting each of the critical sites in the Application. He explained that the public hearing will be held on March 25, 2015 in the council chamber and the evidentiary portion of the public hearing is to be held on March 26, 2015 at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) Office in Hartford. The adjudicator will then review the testimony and make a determination.

Dilaj provided an update concerning the wastewater project indicating the CEPA process is underway. The Scoping Notice was published in the March 3, 2015 edition of the Environmental Monitor with a public scoping meeting to be held on March 18, 2015 at 7:00 PM with the doors opening at 6:00 PM to review informational materials. Public comment is open until April 3, 2015. Weston & Sampson continues to update the design for the most cost effective alignment. Town staff met and/or discussed the sewer alignment with the owners of those affected

properties that provided authorization to complete survey along the property and would entertain the Town to provide sketches of the easements. These easements will then be appraised. Rawn asked if Staff was satisfied with the movement of the easements and design. Dilaj indicated that the project is moving forward and the CEPA process will require time to complete.

New Business

A motion was made by Reich and seconded by Raymond to switch New Business a and b on the Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

b. **Mansfield Tomorrow.** Painter reviewed highlights within the plan regarding water and wastewater strategies with the committee. The Committee provided several comments concerning the plan including:

- 9.18 Water Conservation and Reuse – The Plan indicates that the off-campus properties will no longer be subject to UConn water conservation policies that restrict water usage during low streamflow periods. It was recommended the plan include language from the Connecticut Water Company on their water conservation measures.
- 9.19 Water Pollution Control – The plan could be read that a 1991 wastewater facilities plan would indicate the Four Corners Area has adequate wastewater disposal. This language should be clarified, if required.
- 9.20 – The plan may want to include “since the 1960’s” to provide quantification for “longstanding”.
- Coite clarified what the reclaimed water is being used for and that the reclaimed water is being implemented into future projects.
- It was recommended that Chapter 10 include a discussion on maintaining rural character and prevent unwanted growth.
- It was recommended that language be added specifically referencing the use of overlay zones along pipeline corridors to limit service connections in rural residential areas.

a. **Sewer Assessment.** Staff made a presentation on the current method for determining sewer assessments. The current method of Units and Adjusted Front Footage is common within the State of Connecticut. Staff responded to concerns raised by the WPCA (Town Council) and public feedback during the informational sessions regarding the impacts to single family home property owners and presented one means of varying the distribution between Units and Adjusted Front Footage. The establishment of a Four Corners District was contemplated so that varying this ratio could be applied only to the district. The committee was concerned about the impacts to specific properties within the district by varying the distribution.

After discussion, the committee wants to minimize the impact to the residential properties within the sewer district. One option presented was to vary the unit size for commercial properties. It was requested that staff prepare additional scenarios by varying the size of the commercial units.

Correspondence and Meeting Reports

No updates.

Future Meetings

The next scheduled meeting is April 13, 2015.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek M Dilaj, PE
Assistant Town Engineer