



## Water/Wastewater Commission

### Meeting AGENDA

Wednesday – February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
5:00 p.m.

J. A. Provencial Building  
1200 Rindge Rd.  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

2021 FEB -5 AM 10:17  
FITCHBURG CITY CLERK

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**DUE TO THE RESTRICTIONS REGARDING COVID-19, THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE VIRTUALLY WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF FATV & ZOOM.**

The public is invited to participate in the Zoom webinar of January 13, 2021 5:00 PM

Register in advance for the Public Comment/Hearing portion of the Agenda by going to:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_XE4x-XHcQxmVoP7vXLg-hA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XE4x-XHcQxmVoP7vXLg-hA)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about logging in to join the webinar.

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1. Review minutes from January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Commission Meeting.
2. **Public Forum:** None
3. **Water Division**
  - Water Meter Upgrade Project – update
  - Cross Connection Program – update
  - Personnel/Staffing - update
4. **Wastewater Division**
  - **Status Update Items:**
    - Sewer Ordinance, (City Code Chapter 147):
      - Both the Town of Westminster and the Town of Lunenburg are working on incorporation of Fitchburg's Ordinance updates into their own Town Bylaws.

- Westminster will require vote at Town Meeting for changes approval. Date of Westminster Town Meeting are: May 1, 2021.
  - Westminster requests time extension to comply with Town Sewer Bylaw adoption (Re.: IMA Article 17 time requirements) to the end of business on **Friday –May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021** (following May 1<sup>st</sup> Town Meeting).
- For Lunenburg, Sewer Commission will be addressing in their Sewer Regulations, which requires two public hearings (in Lunenburg Sewer Commission Meetings).
  - Lunenburg requests time extension to comply with Town Sewer Regulations Update adoption (re: IMA Article 18 time requirements) to end of business on **Friday - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021** (following Lunenburg’s 2<sup>nd</sup> monthly meeting, May 25<sup>th</sup>, of Lunenburg Sewer Commission).
- Review & Approve the **Revised DRAFT “Sewer Rules & Regulations”** (update of previous DRAFT “Sewer Rules & Regulations” provided by ARCADIS {consulting engineer}), provided to the W/WW Commission at the Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Commission Meeting.
  - Communication feedback from the City Solicitor Pusateri has been received (Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021), on the **Revised DRAFT “Sewer Rules & Regulations”**, and has been provided to the Commission in the form of a Memorandum (from Deputy Commissioner Murawski). Said Memo was provided to the Commission on Friday – February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (via email), and are incorporated into the February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 W/WW Commission Meeting packets.
- **Construction Project (Update):**
  - CSS Project: “**CSO 007, 011, 039, 048 Separation/Rehabilitation Project**”. Contractor, J.A. Polito & Sons, Inc.; and Engineer, Weston & Sampson Engineers.
    1. Project Construction Activities Update will be provided in the Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> W/WW Commission Meeting.
  - **“On-Call Construction Contract” Work (Contractor: Blue Diamond Equipment):**
    - Blue Diamond has completed the Highview Street open cut excavation work portion of the “Highview Street Sewer Rehab. /Replacement Project”, and is yet to conduct the trenchless rehabilitation portion of the work (*expected to be completed in spring 2021*).
- 3. **Joint Water & Wastewater ‘Rates Study’ (Continued, From January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 W/WW Commission Meeting):**
  - Wastewater previously engaged with Tighe & Bond for a Sewer Rates Study (performed 2017 – 2018).
  - On April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018, City Council amended the Sewers Ordinance (City Code Ch. 147) to include the schedule of sewer rates changes for the 5-year period of FYs ’19, ’20, ’21, ’22, and ’23.

- “Rates” are strongly correlated with capital improvements, and Wastewater still has a number of capital improvements projects required to be compliant with the Consent Decree.
- Note that the City can’t “walk away” from the Consent Decree, after its latest referenced date.....rather, the City will have to serve a “Request for Termination” petition EPA and MassDEP to be released from the Consent Decree, having attained the requirements under the CD’s “Remedial Measures”.
- **UPDATE:** The City has recently executed “DPW, On-Call Engineering Services” contracts, and we now have a ready way to solicit Service Task proposals for “Rate Study”. Of the contracted On-Call Engineering firms, four (4) out of six (6) have environmental (Water & Wastewater) expertise: Arcadis; Brown & Caldwell; CEI; and Weston & Sampson.

4. **Miscellaneous:**

- Wastewater recently completed an updated informational, tri-fold brochure (*See Attached*). The brochure will be handed out when we give tours of the plant, or when we appear at public events (City’s annual “Community Health Resource Fair”, annual “DPW Day”, and STEM-related events with Fitchburg Public Schools or Fitchburg and Leominster Boys & Girls Club).
- 2021 Rain Barrels Program (a form of “Green Infrastructure”). In the previous 3 Program Years ..... DPW – Wastewater, DPW – Engineering (representing Storm water/MS4) and Fitchburg Conservation Commission partnered together with “The Great American Rain Barrel Company” to sell:
  1. 98 rain barrels in 2018;
  2. 50 rain barrels in 2019; and
  3. **176** rain barrels in 2020 (after the pandemic had begun).

5. **Other Business**

- The Water/Wastewater Commission will next meet at 5:00 pm on Wednesday **March 10, 2021** at the J.A. Provencal Building, 1200 Rindge Rd. Fitchburg, MA 01420.
- Adjourn