



# Williamsburg Water/Sewer Commission

141 Main Street, P.O. Box 447  
Haydenville, Massachusetts 01039-0447

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Minutes for Meeting on: Thursday, July 8, 2021 @ 5:00 PM Held at Town Offices, 141 Main Street, Haydenville Public Present: Bryan Thackeray	Members:	Present	Not Present
	Eric Cerreta, Chairman	x	
	James Hyslip	x	
	Paul Kennedy	x	
	Roger Bisbee	x	
	Gary Benoit	x	
	Brenda Lessard, Secretary	x	
	Others Present:		
	Bryan Osetek-Oper.	x	
	Dan Banister-Highway	x	

Meeting called to order at 5:06 p.m.

- Bryan Thackeray was in to inquire whether the commission would allow geocaching on the property they own surrounding the Unquomunk Dam. The commission will further discuss and let him know.
- Dan Banister reported of abnormally high number of wipes has been found in the sewer lines. They are clogging certain areas and holding grease and fats from flowing. Public service announcements regarding wipes needs to get out to the sewer users.
- The commissioners have met with several engineers to request help with the BOD and TSS high numbers and the high flows. The latest was Bob Maelstrom who met with Mr. Hyslip on July 8, 2020. Mr. Maelstrom talked a bit with Mr. Hyslip about the issues the town is having with their wastewater. Mr. Maelstrom reported he was told by the City of Northampton that it would be a conflict of interest for him to help Williamsburg. This was also told to Dave Prickett, who was contacted in the winter of 2020, and Tighe and Bond, who was contacted September 11, 2020, and who has done previous sewer work for the Town of Williamsburg. The board is frustrated as all the engineers they have reached out to have been told by the City of Northampton that they cannot help us to figure these problems out. The town is paying high fines to the City of Northampton and the board is questioning why the City is unwilling to let the town receive help in bringing these high numbers of BOD and TSS in the wastewater down. Mr. Bisbee will reach out to Mike Parsons and Dave Pinskey who both worked for Tighe and Bond to see if they may provide help to the town.
- No updates on the contract with Northampton from the town attorney.
- Bread Euphoria is closed until July 13, 2021. The board wants a forced flush of the sewer main in Haydenville.
- Mr. Benoit reported about headworks equipment which filters the wastewater. This may be a possibility to remove some of the grease and fat prior to it going to Northampton. There will be a cost of disposal and the equipment. The board wants more information. There is also an emulsifier which can be added to the waste stream to lower elevated TSS and BOD numbers in the wastewater. Some investigation will be done to see if any grants are available to help with the cost.
- Mr. Bisbee would like to know if the Highview still gets a discount on their billing. Many years ago they received discounts as they were a supplier of water for the fire department when they had the

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large storage tank on their property but has since been removed. The tax collector who does the billing will need to be asked.

- The water flow has decreased since the pipes were repaired at the James School.
- The town may be sending out a newsletter in the fall. An article will be drafted to include in the newsletter if it goes out to the residents about the high numbers, what not to put in the sewer lines and the need to increase the sewer rates to sustain the budget. If a newsletter does not go out, the board may do a mailing.
- The commission discussed the request to put geocaches on the Unquomunk Dam area. The commission would like to not allow it at this time until land use regulations are written.
- Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 6:15 PM

Respectively submitted,  
Brenda Lessard, Secretary