

**MINUTES**  
**SEWER IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**  
**September 5, 2017**

OPENING: The regular scheduled meeting of the Sewer Implementation Committee opened at 6:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

Jerry Patria, Chairman	Present
Randy Brown, Vice Chairman	Absent
Brian Pranka	Present
Freda Brown	Present
Art Pinell	Absent

**MINUTES**

Mr. Pranka made a motion to accept the minutes of July 5, 2017. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Alistar Fairlie – 4 Woodland Ridge  
Mr. & Mrs. David MacWilliams - 4 Pinnacle Drive  
Cynthia Dennis – 35 Woodland Ridge

All in attendance wanted more information relative to the survey sent by the Sewer Implementation Committee to determine if their neighborhood was interested in a public sewer system. Mr. Patria explained that the intent of the survey was to determine interest of the homeowners in the area of Woodside Circle. Mr. Pranka also explained that the Sewer Implementation Committee was looking for a direction to continue exploring areas of the Town that would be interested in connecting to the existing public sewer system. The Select Board is continuing to solicit State funding for the Congamond Road project, and Representative Boldyga issued a letter to Secretary Jay Ash, Housing and Economic Development, expressing the need for the expansion.

Some of the questions from the attendees was the cost was not addressed in the survey and currently functioning septic systems. Until an actual design is created, a definitive cost cannot be established. However, the Town could create an estimate cost based on current construction costs, the amount of piping needed, and the insertion of stubs for each property. There is already a section of North Pond Road that is connected to the public sewer system, so in essence, part of the infrastructure needed already exists. The area does have sandy soils, which is conducive to

functioning septic systems, but is also near the aquifer. The SIC members related to the attendees that the connection to the public sewer line was not mandated. Title 5 had changed their requirements to include that properties which have a failure criteria are mandated to connect. The property owner will be responsible for the actual connection. Cost estimates would be determined by the distance of the dwelling to the stubbed sewer line, and if the topography will need to include a grinder pump. The Town does allow for separate sewer and water meters so the property owner need only pay for the amount of sewage metered, and not for water other associated usages.

Prior to any action taken, the Town must first create a design, get a cost estimate for the installation, and get a majority of votes at a Town meeting. The installation of a public sewer may increase the evaluation on a property for resale value.

A three page letter was sent by a resident of the survey area to the “Neighbors of Woodland Ridge” outlining various “facts”. Though Mr. Brown was not able to attend the meeting, he did address the “facts” in an email to the SIC members. There were several assumptions by the resident that in actuality were refuted by documentation and records of existing public sewer users. The resident that issued the letter to the neighbors was not in attendance.

Mr. Patria thanked the attendees for their participation and stated that the intent of the SIC was to find areas in Town which can be connected at a low cost and the areas most in need of public sewers.

Mr. Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Pranka seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Nilsson, Secretary

cc:

Selectmen  
Town Clerk

---

Jerry Patria, Chairman

---

Randy Brown, Vice Chairman

---

Brian Pranka

---

Art Pinell

---

Freda Brown

---

Date