

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Charlton Water and Sewer Commission**  
**Date: October 7, 2013**

Location: Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall

Attendees:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>
Joseph Haebler	Y	Robert Lemansky	Y
Joseph Spiewak	Y	Paul Gagner	Y
Alex J. MacKenzie	Y		

Recording of minutes by Carol Goodspeed, Department Assistant

Mr. Haebler: I'd like to call the meeting to order. It is 6:00 p.m. **Mr. Spiewak: Mr. Chair, I make a motion to approve the following warrants: National Grid: \$8,018.75; Fire Detection Systems: service labor; replacement of a module: \$441.92; Wilson Cleaning & Restoration: office cleaning: \$180.00; total: \$8,640.67; Woodard & Curran: MTA samplings through 8/30/13: \$435.60; Ricoh, USA, Inc.: \$142.27; AT&T: \$44.57; Carol A. Goodspeed: mileage reimbursement: \$33.90; total: \$656.34 (we have a note that the \$435.60 is recoverable); Woodard & Curran: contract operations for the month of October: \$42,253.00; National Grid: Muggett Hill pump station: 8/12 – 9/12: \$28.00; Franklin Electric Co, Inc.: retro kits for Interon pumps: \$23,600.00 (Note: This is the balance of the costs from the 20 units we approved to buy for 2014.); The Abrahams Group: services rendered with respect to the water betterment assessment project from 8/24/13 – 9/13/13: \$2,500.00; Kopelman & Paige, P.C.: services through August 31, 2013 regarding water project assessments: \$551.00; Worcester District Registry of Deeds: \$75.00 (deeds to be liened for the water betterments); McClure Engineering, Inc.: pay req #1, Muggett Hill sewer pump station modifications: \$50,615.28 (Mr. Haebler: Should we hold that one until we look at the pay req? It was agreed to withhold it.) Mr. Spiewak: We'll withdraw that one for now. Next, Abatement warrant: 23 Carpenter Hill Road: \$142.40; seconded by Mr. Gagner (keeping in mind that we are holding the \$50,000 McClure bill). Discussion: Mr. Lemansky: On the Wilson cleaning, do you have them on a regular schedule now? Steve: We talked to him about that. I indicated that a quarterly cleaning would be good. He cleaned the ceiling vents; and the rugs almost look new. They were done on Friday. **Vote: Unanimous.** Mr. Spiewak: There is one set of minutes from September 23<sup>rd</sup> that Carol emailed today. It was decided to review these at the next meeting.**

6:08 p.m. Steve's report. Bacteria samples were good for the S. Sturbridge Road area. I talked to Paul McNeil from Williamson Environmental regarding Honey Farms. Mr. Haebler: What is the plate count? Steve: A measure of where the chlorine residuals are at. The water article was published on Tuesday, October 2nd. Paul Gagner will be attending a meeting in Leicester tomorrow at 6 p.m. Follow up emails and telephone calls to McClure regarding Charlton City. Steve: I do have information from McClure which I will go through with you. The Masonic Home manhole was clogged again on Tuesday; they were notified; pictures were taken; and an invoice went out today. Reminder: There is an all boards meeting on Tuesday for anyone who wants to go. It has been posted. We have a check valve failure at the Muggett Hill pump station. We had one before which broke apart. We had gone in and marked all the joints and all the parts and pieces with slippage marks which show no indication of anything turning. We don't know why it broke but it did. We have to fix it. We're looking at DI pipe, metal valves. We have other pump stations within our system that have higher head pressures that have not broken. I reached out to Alex and he has come back with information to us. We could completely redo the broken system. If we do it all in metal vs. PVC, we are looking at an estimated cost of \$10,000+. There are some metal check valves on the system. Mr. MacKenzie to

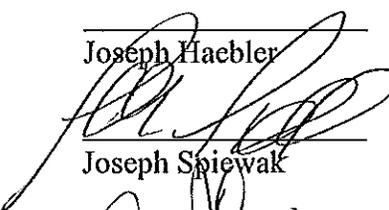
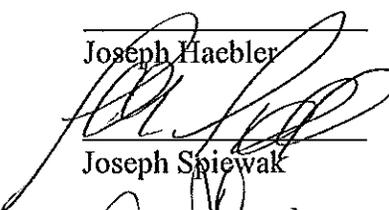
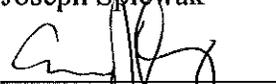
Steve: The \$10,000--are you talking about valve replacement? Steve: Everything. Mr. MacKenzie: You can put the valves on PVC. Steve: We did talk about that. We don't know whether it broke in the startup position or the shutdown position. Mr. Haebler to Steve: Are there any testing companies that could test these pipes? Steve: We do not have VFD's; they are submersible pumps. Whatever decision we make is not going to be a guarantee. Mr. Lemansky: The check valve – did the check valve split? Steve: We haven't taken it apart. I have pictures at the plant—looks like a volcano is coming out of where the valves are connected; it has burst through where the seals are and is running down the shaft. The first one that broke – the check valve shattered. We have pictures of that. Mr. MacKenzie: These are mounted vertically. To Steve: Have they been rated for vertical installation? That's key. Steve: R.H. White put the valves in. The valves are new. Mr. Lemansky: This is at Muggett Hill. Steve: They think the problem there was caused by water hammering – two valves, one of which was replaced. Mr. Gagner: Can you hear water hammering? Mr. MacKenzie: If it is brass, you could hear it. Steve: The system we replaced and took pictures of was PVC. Mr. Lemansky: I don't know why we would not have bought VFD motors for the pumps. The office was cleaned on Friday including carpeting and ceiling vents. He did do a nice job. We talked about making a regular schedule to do the cleaning. The Muggett Hill situation: The system is essentially complete. McClure dropped off a letter recommending approval of the pay application no. 1. Mr. Haebler: So essentially the project is 99% complete. Steve: Yes. Mr. Lemansky: What was originally bid and with the change orders, the additional amount is \$4,699.91; \$3,000 of that is for the electrical change order. Mr. Haebler: Any questions? Mr. Lemansky: Do you need a motion or is the chairman authorized to sign it? **Mr. Gagner: I make a motion to release this money to Ricciardi Bros. for \$50,615.28; seconded by Mr. MacKenzie.** Discussion: Mr. Gagner: In my opinion, they have come down; they've done the few extras we had; they've maintained the punch list that we gave them; and as far as I'm concerned, they are done. Steve: With the commission's permission, I will rewrite that warrant payable to Ricciardi Bros. with authorization for the chairman to sign in your behalf and then we can take care of this tomorrow. **Mr. Gagner: I will modify the motion to pay Ricciardi Bros. with the formal signature to be done by the chairman; seconded by Mr. MacKenzie. Vote: Unanimous.**

Steve: Charlton City water line activation. We are waiting on EJ Prescott who has ordered parts and are waiting for word as to when the parts for the hydrant will be here. As of last week, the Town of Southbridge Water Department was still flushing hydrant 64. McClure will take samples and adjust the flow. S. Sturbridge Road – Route 20 water line connection: we are waiting on a hard copy of the lab results. We have been told the results were good. McClure will be doing samples and will adjust the flows as necessary to keep the chloramines where they need to be. McClure contacted our highway superintendent regarding paving – recommendation was to put in a permanent patch mid to late November at S. Sturbridge Road. At that point they will discuss the overlay. The contractor has submitted pay application #1; it will need to be revised as they are waiting on getting uniform detail slips. Mr. Lemansky: Were there any overages in the construction? Steve: I have not seen a list to bring before the commission as yet. Mr. Haebler: There have been no change orders. Mr. Lemansky: The temporary patch will be turned into permanent patch. Steve: They will adjust the contract to remove the asphalt; and have the highway department do the work next spring. Mr. Haebler: We also have the credit with the Mass DOT that could possibly pay that; and we could save some money. Mr. Haebler: IMA update: I hope to call tomorrow and speak with the secretary; and I will bring that back; and we will have a meeting with the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Lemansky to Mr. Haebler: Has there been any news from the letter that was written by the Bay Path School Committee to Senator Moore? Mr. Haebler received a letter from Peter Durant.

Mr. Haebler: The betterments have been done. They are in the hands of the Assessors. On October 15, they will be sending out a letter to people who will be asked if they wish to connect to water. We will have to schedule an informational meeting. Mark Abraham will be there. At that point, people will have their letters; will know how much the betterments are; and will be able to come in and ask questions. This is for Phase 1 properties that actually already have water. It's all in place. Mr. Lemansky: Both Paul and I, because we are within the contract service area, for conflict reasons, we are restricted from betterment meetings. Mr. Haebler: Does anyone have anything else? Mr. Spiewak: I believe that as an action from that meeting held on October 3, we were going to set a date for a public meeting. Mr. Haebler: Letters will go out on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. MacKenzie: We meet again on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Haebler: There will be an insert from us in with the letter invoice. Should we wait a week after that? People would get the letters by the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Haebler: We will probably hold the meeting at Dexter Hall on a Tuesday or a Thursday. Mr. Spiewak: I would think the sooner the better—22<sup>nd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> would be best. Perhaps the 24<sup>th</sup> would be best. **Mr. Spiewak: I make a motion that we hold a public meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> in Dexter Memorial Hall; seconded by Mr. MacKenzie.** To Steve: We need to contact Mark Abraham. He should be there; also the Betterment Committee and us. Mr. MacKenzie: They will go out with the January tax bill due in February. Mr. Haebler: At the meeting we will go through how the process was done; and they will have six months from the time the bills are mailed to ask to challenge the bill; ask for an abatement; or a deferral. Mr. Lemansky: The true bill will go out the last week of December so everyone gets it January 1. I think that would be the start date of the clock for the abatements. It would be no different than a tax bill. Mr. Haebler: The Town Assessor was certain that the six-month period started when the letter went out, but I will check that. **Vote: Unanimous.** Mr. Haebler: We will attempt to get Dexter Hall first and if not, then the school. Mr. Lemansky: How many units? Mr. Haebler: 277. Steve: I'll contact Mark Abraham or his son for confirmation of that date. Mr. Spiewak: I thought it was 227. Mr. Haebler: Yes, 227.

**Mr. Gagner: I make a motion to adjourn with our next meeting being October 21st at 6 p.m. at the sewer plant; seconded by Mr. MacKenzie. Vote: Unanimous.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

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Joseph Haebler	Date	Robert Lemansky	Date
	10/21/13		10/21/13
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Joseph Spiewak	Date	Paul Gagner	Date
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Alex J. MacKenzie	Date		