



## Water/Wastewater Commission

**Meeting AGENDA**  
**Wednesday – January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**5:00 p.m.**

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

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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\\_FdtpevvXR6-Elp5NBaklBw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FdtpevvXR6-Elp5NBaklBw)

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 December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Commission Meeting.
2. **Public Forum:** None
3. **Water Division**
  - Water Division – revenues/expenses and water rate study
  - 245 River Street – defective water meter
  - Meter upgrade Project – update on project and fee for reading obsolete meters
4. **Wastewater Division**

**Status Update Items:**

- Sewer Ordinance, (City Code Chapter 147):

- Tuesday – December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020: City Council gave Ordinance 236-20 its 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading, and adopted the Chapter 147 Sewers Ordinance changes to be enrolled and ordained, by unanimous vote;
- Ordinance 236-20 was signed by Mayor DiNatale on Friday – December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- As required by Fitchburg’s Intermunicipal Agreements (IMAs) with the Town of Westminster and with the Town of Lunenburg, certified mailings were sent (on Monday – Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021) to the IMA required recipients of notification of Fitchburg’s Ordinance change, and Fitchburg’s Local Limits updates. Each IMA has time provisions within which the IMA Town must adopt the Local Limits, and incorporate Town Bylaw/Ordinance changes that are as stringent as or more so than Fitchburg’s Sewer Ordinance in all respects.
- Continue to the W/WW February 2021 Meeting: 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.
  - The ***Revised DRAFT “Sewer Rules & Regulations”*** have been provided multiple times to the City Solicitor (first on October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020), and as of the writing of the agenda for the W/WW Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting, the City Solicitor has not yet provided review feedback comments/questions/suggestions.
- **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. Contractor commenced work on Tues. – Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, first addressing a failing sewer on lower South Street, and installed approximately 80 linear feet of replacement sewer. Work has continued to occur into the winter, with “spot” excavation work, and plans to include “trenchless rehabilitation” portions of the work.
  - **“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.
    - Wastewater has requested a price proposal for sewer separation work in Boulder Drive (*see provided plan*) from Blue Diamond. This work is planned to be performed in the spring, at the beginning of the 2021 construction season.
- **Wastewater Management Plan, Consent Decree Submission #2:** Prepared by Weston & Sampson, and reviewed and approved by Wastewater, was submitted to EPA & MassDEP on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

- Wastewater as made both the original submission of the Wastewater Management Plan (submitted on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019) and the recent WWMP Submission No. 2 publicly available on the City website, on the Wastewater webpage:
  1. [www.ci.fitchburgma.us/476/Wastewater-Division](http://www.ci.fitchburgma.us/476/Wastewater-Division)
  2. Beneath the “*Frequently Asked Questions*” section of the webpage, is the “*Wastewater Management Plan*” documents.

**Joint Water & Wastewater ‘Rates Study’:**

- 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”.

**5. Other Business**

- The Water/Wastewater Commission will next meet at 5:00 pm on Wednesday **February 10, 2020** at the J.A. Provencial Building, 1200 Rindge Rd. Fitchburg, MA 01420.
- Adjourn