



# TOWN OF HUDSON

## Municipal Utility Committee

David Shaw, Chairman

Brett Gagnon, Selectmen Liaison



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### Hudson Municipal Utility Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: September 21, 2021

**Member Attendees:**

David Shaw, Chairman

Dawn Lavacchia

Bill Abbott

Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer

Barbara O'Brien, Water Utility

Donna Staffier-Sommers – Administrative Aide

**Absent:**

Brett Gagnon, Selectman Liaison

**Guests:**

Kevin Stoultz, Uniclean V.P.

William Shaffer, EEC Environmental

William Kanteres & Calley Milne, Kanteres Real Estate

Michael Quinlan, resident

The monthly meeting of the Town of Hudson Municipal Utility Committee was held Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 7:00pm in the Board of Selectmen Meeting Room at Hudson Town Hall, 12 School Street Hudson, NH. Secretarial duties were provided by Donna Staffier-Sommers.

To better accommodate our guests, the Chairman took agenda item 11E – Sewer allocation 35 Sagamore Park Rd out of order.

The Town received a sewer allocation request for 22,690 gpd from Uniclean, A Division of UniFirst Corporation. Their original request was for 40,000 gpd but after explanation of our flow limitations by our Town Engineer Elvis Dhima, they modified their request. The site is entitled to 7,140 gpd based on its size, so they need BOS approval of the additional 15,550 gpd.

Elvis wasn't originally favorable to the approval of this allocation request because of the amount needed from our remaining sewer flow for a small piece of property. After a better understanding our flow limitations, Uniclean then submitted a Letter of Commitment to the Inflow & Infiltration Program. The Town Code allows customers to contribute to inflow & infiltration reduction projects in order to free up additional sewer allocation by reducing the I & I into the Town's sewer system. Uniclean has committed a contribution of \$70,000 to the Town of Hudson I & I program to fund future I & I reduction projects.

William Shaffer of EEC Environmental and Kevin Stoultz of Uniclean spoke to their request and presented some handouts to the Committee providing better insight as to what this company is about.

They have outgrown their current site in Nashua and expect to have 30% growth. They have entered into a purchase and sales agreement for property at 35 Sagamore Park Rd that fits their needs. They anticipate one 10 hour shift per day, Monday through Saturday with an on-site staff of 70 people. Average salary \$58,000 - \$60,000 per year.

The handout explains that Unifirst, began in Boston and is 80+ years old, financially sound with consistent growth. The Uniclean division started in Nashua in 1977 and has expanded across the county. They service the cleanroom industry and provide specialized laundering services of work clothing for employees working in sensitive cleanroom environments such as medical, electronic and pharmaceutical. Some local and regional customers they service are Integra Biosciences, Moderna, Masimo, Mercury Systems, MGH and NASA along with many others. Their cleaning system filters for particles at 0.3 microns and the sewer discharge after processing is extremely clean so almost pure water is sent into the sewer system. They receive local enviro-awards annually nationwide. The majority of their Nashua facility's team members live in Hudson and Nashua so they would like to remain in the area. They are also considering locating the Uniclean Corporate headquarters in Hudson.

After listening to their overview of the company and recognizing that the contribution to the I & I program will greatly help our efforts to reduce infiltrated sewer flow, Elvis made recommendation to the Committee to recommend approval to the Board of Selectmen. After a couple of questions, Bill Abbott made motion; Dawn Lavacchia second " to recommend the Board of Selectmen approve the allocation request of 22,690 gpd for 35 Sagamore Park Rd and to accept their I & I contribution of \$70,000 for reduction projects." Motion carried.

### **1. Acceptance of minutes**

The minutes of the August 17, 2021 Municipal Utility Committee meeting were reviewed.

Motion made by Dawn Lavacchia to “accept the meeting minutes for meeting dated August 17, 2021, as written.” Bill Abbott seconded. Motion carried.

**2. Financial Status – Water Utility**

A – B. The Expenditure and Revenue reports for July & August 2021 were reviewed with minor discussion.

C. The Cash Flow Reports for July & August 2021 were reviewed.

D. The White Water monthly operations report for August 2021 was reviewed. Dawn asked if the lead and copper sampling was done every three years. Elvis confirmed.

Elvis informed the Committee that the Dame well has been taken offline because testing results came in lower than Federal standards but higher than he likes to see.

They spoke of the water pipe burst in the report and acknowledge that many of our water pipes need to be upgraded. The Town has been focusing on above ground only infrastructure because of budget restraints, but are getting to the point that they will start to focus on the underground infrastructure soon.

Bill inquired about the altitude valve listed on page 7 of the report. Elvis explained that it is used at the underground booster station at Marsh Rd. It allows the water in the tank to get to a certain elevation.

**3. Old Business- Water Utility - None**

**4. New Business – Water Utility**

A. Abatements:

1. W-UTL-21-07 Melo – 27 Brody Lane

This meter and radio information was entered on two property accounts at the time of installation. This meter was recording use at another property and billed both that property and this property for that use. After getting the correct meter information and a good read, it showed that the customer was overbilled for 409 units. Abatement request \$1349.70 (409 x 3.30).

Motion made by Bill Abbott; second by Dawn Lavacchia “to recommend the Board of Selectmen approve abatement request W-UTL-21-07 in the amount of \$1349.70 for the reason given.” Motion carried.

B. Water Main Acceptance Phase 5 Brackett Lane m/l 156-05

The Town received a water main acceptance and water easement deed for approximately 1,425 linear feet of 8” water main along Brackett Lane in the Sparkling River condo development. There will also be 3 fire hydrants. It is recommended by both the Town Engineer and DPW Director.

Motion made by Dawn Lavacchia; second by Bill Abbott “to recommend the Board of Selectmen accept the water main acceptance for Brackett Lane – Phase 5 as recommended by the Town Engineer and DPW Director.” Motion carried.

C. Water Main Extension Heritage Landing 112-114 Greeley St. Map 140, Lots 2 & 3

The Planning Board approved a 62 plus community site plan to be serviced by municipal water. The proposed 8” water main will connect into an existing 12” main on Greeley St. It will include installation of 2,200 linear feet of 8” water main and 7 fire hydrants.

Motion made by Bill Abbott; second by Dawn Lavacchia “to recommend the Board of Selectmen accept the water system extension agreement for Heritage Landing.” Motion carried.

**5. Financial Status – Sewer Utility**

A-C The Expenditure and Revenue reports for July & August 2021 and the Cash Flow Reports for July & August were reviewed with no comments.

D. The balance of capacity is at 158,900 gpd.

**6. Old Business – Sewer Utility - None**

**7. New Business – Sewer Utility**

A. Abatements:

1. S-UTL-22-06 Harrison 18 Oban Drive m/l 190/064 Acct.# 5010

Applicant requests abatement of sewer charges based on late filing of an auxiliary meter card used to record outside water use. Request abatement of \$21.43 (18 x 1.1905).

Motion made by Dawn Lavacchia; second by Bill Abbott “to recommend the Board of Selectmen approve abatement request S-UTL-21-06 in the amount of \$21.43 for the reason given.” Motion carried.

2. S-UTL-22-07 Town/Coulombe 14 Greentrees Dr. m/l 183/107 Acct. #3334

The water use was estimated from 1/30/20 – 10/30/20. We got a good read when installing a new meter. 1022 units were estimated and 990 units were actually used. Requests abatement of the difference \$38.10 (1022 – 990 = 32 units x 1.1905). Reference Water Utility abatement W-UTL-21-05. Sewer use is based on water use and billed accordingly so this is the sewer side of the water abatement.

Motion made by Dawn Lavacchia; second by Bill Abbott “to recommend the Board of Selectmen approve abatement S-UTL-22-07 in the amount of \$38.10 for the reason given.” Motion carried.

3. S-UTL-22-08 Town/Luong 21 Burns Hill Rd m/l 204/063 Acct. #6329

The water use was estimated from 4/30/20 – 9/30/20. We got a good read when installing a new meter. 1992 units were estimated and 1953 units were actually used. Request abatement of the difference \$46.43 (1992 – 1953 = 39 x 1.1905). Reference Water Utility abatement W-UTL-21-06. Sewer use is based on water use and billed accordingly so this is the sewer side of the water abatement.

Motion made by Bill Abbott; second by Dawn Lavacchia “to recommend the Board of Selectmen approve abatement S-UTL-22-08 in the amount of \$46.43 for the reason given.” Motion carried.

B. Sewer Main Acknowledgement Phase 5 Brackett Lane m/l 156/05

The Town received the application, plans and testing results for this sewer main in the Sparkling River condo development. It consists of approximately 700 linear feet of 8 inch sewer main and 6 sewer manholes. This is to be a private sewer line and allow accessibility to map/lot 156-005 sublots 19-30 & 36-41.

Motion made by Bill Abbott; second by Dawn Lavacchia “to recommend the Board of Selectmen accept the sewer acknowledgement of Phase 5 – Brackett Lane as recommended by the Town Engineer and the DPW Director.” Motion carried.

**8. Informational –**

Copies of the preliminary FY 2023 sewer and water budget requests were presented for review. Budget requests are due to the Finance Director by 10/1/21. Some highlights: the Nashua Wastewater Treatment Plant capital reserve cost share came in from the City of Nashua. Their estimated FY23 invoicing to us will be \$383,414 and included a breakdown of expenditures. We did not receive the summary of projects yet. Pennichuck water purchase line is budgeted at over a million dollars because of the closure of our well causing a need to purchase water.

The Committee then voted to recommend the Board of Selectmen create a warrant article for the FY 2023 Budget request to fund the Vaccon Capital reserve fund with \$15,000 coming from both the Sewer Utility and the Town as a cost share for a replacement vaccon truck.

Motion made by Dawn Lavacchia; second by Bill Abbott “to recommend the Board of Selectmen create a warrant article to add funds into the Vaccon capital reserve Fund with \$15,000 to come from the sewer fund and \$15,000 to come from the general fund.” Motion carried.

**9. Remarks by Selectman, members and staff -None**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2021 at 7:00 pm. and is scheduled to be held in the Board of Selectmen meeting room.

Motion by Dawn Lavacchia; second by Bill Abbott to adjourn at 8:40 pm.

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Donna Staffier-Sommers  
Sewer Utility Administrative Aide

