

TOWN OF DRESDEN SEWER COMMITTEES January 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Meeting note: The call-in number is (605) 313-5692 and 7857820 is the access code.

January 27, 2025

Attendees: Charles Tall, Marc Brown, Matt Fuller, Suzy Shad, Marilyn Borden, Allen Wilbur, Bill Borden, Marilyn Borden, Patrick Keenan (phone), George Kapusinski (phone)

7:01pm meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance

Sewer District #1 Engineering Study

EPG #108886 Huletts Landing Sanitary Sewer Collection System Study

1/27/25 email from LaBella engineer Tom Bates was read at the meeting: “.. we’ve started going through what information we will need and I will be contacting Bill Borden and you [Suzy Shad] for anything we are missing. We are on track for the 21st.”

Comments on the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) from the Environmental Facilities Corp (EFC) were received by the Town and LaBella on 12/13/24 with responses due on 1/9/25. LaBella asked EFC for a due date extension for the comments to the PER and was granted an extension. The new due date is 2/21/25.

Sewer District #1 Sewer Line Burial Project

The 1/27/25 email from LaBella’s Tom Bates about the test pits was read at the meeting: “...the test pits showed bedrock at the crossing in front of [Suzy Shad’s] house at around 10’ on [Suzy Shad’s] side and 6’ on the other [Portela/Gorman] side. At the other crossing, bedrock was not encountered when they dug down to about 11’ on both sides of the stream. In all four test pits, the material was diggable, mostly sandy/clayey/gravel with cobbles encountered. Based on these findings, we are pursuing directional drilling further by discussing the findings with a drilling contractor to confirm feasibility of directional bores. If they concur, we will be updating the plans and specs for directional boring and will send you all a draft for your review. DT Enterprises submitted their invoice to us for \$1650, which we will pay and submit to the Town for reimbursement with our regular January monthly billing, that will also include our time.”

Superintendent Borden summarized the test pit excavation in a similar fashion. Reported that Jeff from Labella was the contact on site, and that he was a hydrogeologist. Reported that Chris Navitsky from the Lake George Association (LGA) was at the excavation for a brief period of time.

It was asked how the permitting proceeds from here, and the town attorney Matt Fuller said the APA/DEC permits will be completed and submitted by LaBella now that the test sites are completed. It is the town’s responsibility to ensure easements & access are cleared.

The hope is that because directional drilling has less of an environmental impact than an open trench excavation that the permitting will go smoothly/quickly.

**Action item - Supervisor Charles Tall is pursuing possibly laying down a concrete box while the weather is good/water is low, for the force main relocation.*

*Supervisor Tall will look into additional/new funding sources for the sewer system – anything that could cover any of the cost of the force main relocation, system upgrades, “smart tech” upgrades, hazardous weather mitigation, et cetera

*Supervisor Tall will look into Dan Stec’s office, county/state contacts as he is able

*Patrick Keenan will reach out to Lake Champlain Basin Program. It’s noted the EDC submission period is closed.

Sewer Districts General

1. Adding sewer impact to building permitting process
 - a. Refer to the December 9th 2024 Town Board meeting minutes for details on the *adoption* of the Sewer Lateral Permit and Determination Application
 - b. Process is that building permits (Washington County Building Permits, the LRCC section) presented to the Town of Dresden which involve Sewer District #1 or Sewer District #2 will not be signed until Superintendent Bill Borden has reviewed and approved the application - this application will be made available on the Town of Dresden website, and paper copies will be made available

*Application will be uploaded to the Town of Dresden website with a short memo detailing the process

*Need clear short memo explaining process to go with application

*Town attorney will look for memo to send to Supervisor Tall to notify county of town’s new process
2. Sewer update – any maintenance or issues, items to be aware of (report from Superintendent Borden)
 - a. No pump failures in SD1 or SD2
 - b. South side of SD1 is having pump-outs weekly or thereabouts, Superintendent Borden reports, has set up recurring service from Doran Bros and will cancel when not needed, currently every Thursday or Friday, ~\$375 a pumpout
 - c. Supervisor Tall brought up *equitable distribution of fees and costs* for the winter costs of the south side station; for the pumpouts that occur November 15 to May 15, as the system was not designed to be year round.
 - d. Suzy Shad suggested that that fee scheme may not prove popular on the south side (SShad lives on the south side)
 - e. The group discussed that ideally long term we would shift to an EDU fee structure instead of a single rate for all properties (winterized or not, multi bedroom or single, etc).
3. Account balances, expenses
 - a. Expenses of Jan-Dec 2024 have all been paid per Supervisor Tall
 - b. Supervisor Tall is working on detailed accounting for SD1 and SD2 – expenses by vendor summaries, profit and loss statement, balance sheet. He’s about 75% complete with the first iteration.
 - c. Nonrecurring expenses, such as the Engineering Planning Grant and the Force Main project will ultimately be delineated

*Supervisor Tall to continue working on accounting

*A message to send along with billing statements each year will need to be generated
4. Succession Plan
 - a. Not addressed tonight

5. Any other items

- a. Schultz garage – Supervisor Tall is looking to have an informal person-to-person meeting with them via Zoom to get caught up with the situation
- b. Garage behind Benvenuto – there is no sewer connection, so there is nothing for this committee or the Superintendent to get involved in

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm