

WANATAH TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
November 7th, 2024
6:00 pm

PRESENT: Councilman Higgins, President Newburn, Councilman Sutton, Vice President Mayo, Clerk/Treasurer Ebert & Attorney Shoffner.

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Jeff Rowe & Son, Justin Higgerson, Donna Travelbee, Fred Matuszak, Chuck Jonas, Greg & Debbie Smoker, Chance Dodds & Kevin Dodds.

Call To Order:

- President Newburn called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

Roll Call:

- Councilman Higgins-Here, President Newburn –Here, Councilman Sutton - Here, Vice President Mayo-Here, A quorum is present.

New Business

- Ordinance 06-2024 was introduced to the Town Council for discussion on the increase of the Wastewater rates. Two options were given to the Council, one being an increase for 19.5% and the other to be for a 25% increase. This increase was only for the sewer rates based on a minimum bill of 2,000 gallons. Jeff Rowe was present from Bakertilly to answer any questions the council might have. Mr. Rowe discussed purchasing options for the wastewater plant, whether to go for SLRF Funds, Open Market or the Bond Bank.

Public Comment

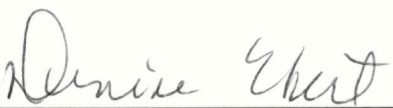
- Donna Travelbee addressed the Council and asked why it took so long to increase the wastewater rates. She was concerned that for the fixed income residents they might not be able to afford this increase. The Council accepted responsibility and knew that they should have been proactive these past years. Councilman Mayo commented on the fact that Wanatah has too high of an income which keeps us from not qualifying for a grant or any funding. Councilman Higgins commented on the fact that Wanatah is highly residential with no Commercial businesses which factors into what Councilman Mayo just said. However, due to the upcoming and much needed wastewater plant, the increase will be in motion. Mrs. Travelbee also asked the question of how much of an increase it would be and Bakertilly responded with a 125% increase is needed over the next year.

Adjournment

President Newburn asked for a motion to adjourn.
Motion by Councilman Higgins; Second by Councilman Mayo. A vote was taken.
All Ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM

ATTEST:



Denise Ebert
Clerk-Treasurer

