



Water and Sewer Advisory Committee February 12, 2026, Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

The Water and Sewer Advisory Committee held its regular monthly meeting at BCTV, 10 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, NH on Thursday, February 12, 2026.

Attendees: Erica Douglas (Environmental Coordinator), Danielle Evansic (Resident), Becky Hebert (Planning Director), Mike Sills (Resident).

Absent: Richard Moore, Chairperson (Resident), Phil Greazzo (Town Councilor – Alternate), Scott Bourcier (Resident), Michael Strand (Town Council Liaison).

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:51am by acting chairperson Environmental Coordinator Erica Douglas.

2. Approval of Minutes – November 13, 2025, Meeting

After roll call, Ms. Douglas stated that next we're going to approve the minutes from our November 13th meeting. She then said, "Everyone should have a copy of those meeting minutes, was there any changes to that?" No one had any corrections or edits, so Ms. Herbert moved to approve the minutes and Ms. Evansic seconds that motion. Ms. Douglas announces "all in favor say I" to which the group unanimously agrees in favor and the motion carries.

3. Committee Chair Nominations and Voting

Ms. Douglas stated that then the next item on the agenda is a committee chair. She said, "For this right now I've just been filling in, and we've talked in the past, I know with Jeremy there was a lot of talk about the Town employees shouldn't be the committee chair so what I would like to do is open this up for a nominations for committee chair. There was laughter from the committee. Ms. Douglas then asked if there were any nominations. Mr. Sills then said, "There's not going to be any nominations so lets just talk it over." Ms. Evansic then said, "well it's basically whether Mike wants it or if I do," asking "is that the way it works?" Ms. Douglas responded with "Yes that's where we are at now, you two have been the two that have been showing up to the meetings." Ms. Evansic then said to Mr. Sills, "Mike, I don't mind unless you want it, I would defer to you because of your experience." Mr. Sills then announced that Ms. Evansic is nominated. Ms. Douglas seconds that. Ms. Evansic said she accepts the nomination and Ms. Douglas then asked, "Those in favor of electing Danielle Evansic as the new Chair?" All in the committee were in favor.

No one opposed it. Ms. Douglas stated then that the motion carries. She then asked Ms. Evansic if she would like to take over officially, to which Ms. Evansic accepted.

4. **Status Update on BOD and TSS Issues**

Ms. Evansic states that the next item on the agenda is the status update on BOD and TSS issues. Ms. Douglas stated that she was happy to provide an update on that. She said, "So we were having some really high BOD and TSS ratings over in Manchester, as I let you all know some of the history from the last time the last meeting we had gone through cleaning out the siphon, we've done multitudes of testing on our side, on the Manchester side, and then we hired consultant Rick Cantu of Osprey Owl, who did a fantastic job. He was the old superintendent of the wastewater treatment plant in Manchester and is very familiar with our system and the issues that we've had in the past with testing for BOD and TSS. So with that he also coordinated testing our samples at the Manchester lab, Manchester sampling that they did at a private lab, and the results came back in that report that I sent out, pretty much as we expected the board, the private lab was slightly lower but not much and what we ended up determining was our flows have increased to the point where during the day we have high flows of high diurnal flows enough that's overflowing our 10-in siphon into our 14-in siphon at that point the 14 inch siphon would carry the flow, the minimal amount of flow that was receiving, over to Manchester and then when the flow dropped back down what was happening was the siphon was slowing down and stopping and all of the BOD and TSS was settling out. Then in the morning as the flow would pick up and increase again, we get a slug of BOD and TSS." Mr. Sills asked Ms. Douglas, "so its settling into the 14 inch?" She replied, "Yes. So what we ended up doing is we closed that 10 inch and so the 14 is now able to handle the low flows no problem and it's able to handle the increase of the other flows coming through at the high points and we've seen a drop back down to normal in our BOD and TSS so our bills have started coming back down to the normal range so we're pretty confident that we have a temporary solution until we do the siphon station upgrade and at that point will be able to tweak some stuff. Mr. Sills then asked, "So do you think that the high BODs and TSS was due to settlement in the 14?" To which Ms. Douglas replied that that was correct. Ms. Evansic then confirmed that that was what was discussed at the last meeting, that the high BOD and TSS were due to the settlement in 14inch. Ms. Douglas agreed, stating that we now had billing data to corroborate that. She said some of the things we will continue to investigate as Manchester moves forward with their CSO separation projects, our billing is also based in proportion to what their BOD and TSS and what their flow is. So, this summer when they weren't getting high spikes in flow, that was also cause for our sewer bills to be high, so when we move forward with the sewer financial model update, that will all be accounted for in that. Mr. Sills then asked, "If the BOD and TSS solids, even though its settled, were still strong or at least average, probably means we don't have a lot of I&I in the system." Ms Douglas stated that that's absolutely correct. Mr. Sills then asked, "when was the last time we Tved it?" Ms. Douglas then asked if Mr. Sills was referring to the siphon or the pipes. Mr. Sills responded with "the pipes, all of them." Ms. Douglas then said, "we did a full assessment that was completed in 2017 and then this past year in 2025 we did start TVing pipes again, but one of the things that I did this year was I added a level sensor to the manhole that's right out front of the siphon station so we can see what

that's doing. Unfortunately, that's not that great for flow because where two lines come into it and so it gets very sluggish. So, we are just using it as a level sensor right now. That's giving us great data, and we are able to see what the level in that manhole is doing during storm events. So right now, we haven't seen any real high I&I in the system. We are moving forward with our flow metering study and so that as the spring moves forward and we get the snow melt and rain that will really give us some good information and data on what we want to do moving forward, if there's any I&I to be addressed. Mr. Sills then said, "So this is good news, bad news?" Ms. Douglas then said, "The way we are going to do the flow metering is, we will really be able to break down the areas and the neighborhoods and the interceptor line that flows along the river, that's the oldest section, so generally the interceptors are going to be the best built pipes in your systems but they are also going to be the oldest, we do have some clay in that section, so we can expect there will probably be majority I&I. As you get over to the street laterals that were generally not built by the city that were undertaken by the city, that's where you start seeing more of the defects in the pipes, they aren't generally as well built as the interceptors. It's a toss up on where they could be coming from, but we do have some good indication that those interceptors might have a little bit of I&I that will need to be addressed. It might be as simple as a lining project and not a full reconstruction. I will have more data once the flow metering study is done and at that point, we'll also be able to help model the system to really see what our lines are doing. At that point we'll come back to you because we'll have more information on our wet weather data and how we want to actually model our pipes." Mr. Sills then added, "its not going drastically down during a storm event which is good." Ms. Douglas agreed, and Ms. Evansic then said, "That's what we saw with the drought data from last summer was that even though Manchester saw significant decrease, we didn't." Ms. Douglas agrees, and Ms. Evansic then continued, "Like you said its good news, bad news, Manchester was wasteful, we're pretty efficient so as they get better sewer costs are going to increase." Ms. Douglas then replied, "With that also being said we were seeing issues with our Alpine Court one which is our next item, so I'll wait to get to that." Ms. Evansic then said we will roll into that one stating that Alpine Court has a high flow issue, and that is the next item on our agenda if we are happy with the BOD and TSS discussion.

5. Status Update on Alpine Court High Flow Issue

Ms. Douglas began, "That was something else we had brought up at the last meeting, we were seeing high flows in that area that were not at all related to rain events. It was very strange because it was obviously a residential neighborhood. We were seeing low flows in the springtime when we would expect to see high flows and then this summer we again we're seeing high flows in the Manchester side as we were reading it so we actually put another flow meter just upstream of their metering station and that was giving us really great consistent data not showing any I&I in our whole Alpine Court flow area. But it wasn't actually solving the problem of why we were getting those high reading. So, this December we ended up having some really high weird readings in that flow meter when it had been very consistent," Mr. Sills then asked, "was this during storm events?" To which Ms. Douglas responded with, "No. So we went out there and the manhole was actually surcharging because of blockages do to grease in that system. So looking back in the history it looks like grease has been a very common issue in the system, so what we ended

up doing is flow assessment was fantastic, that's the contract that we were working with for the flow metering data, they came out they opened up the manhole and got their meter set back up again and then we coordinated with Manchester to let them know that there was a grease issue as well. We set up a time for all of us to meet out on site to see if we can move our meter into their station, unfortunately there wasn't enough room, Flow Assessment was able to go in and say we agree Manchester has their meter in the best location; it appears their meter is reading correctly. They were able to confirm all of that they were also able to confirm that there was a huge piece of grease in the system that hadn't been cleaned out and when they did clean it out both Manchester and Bedford visually observed the flow the level on their meter reading 4 inches dropping down to under an inch immediately. So that corroborates what we were thinking we were seeing in our flow meter around 3 to 500, 000 gallons, for the month long period, they were billing us for 2 million so what we've done the last month of January is we were going out almost daily minus the weekends and doing stagnant readings because they're their metering station is just a totalizer and our meter that we have in there captures flow every 5 minutes, so we're looking at lining those up and corroborating that Manchester has all that information so they've already verbally said that if we can show a difference in what their meter was totalizing versus what was actually happening then we'll be able to hopefully go back to them for a credit." Ms. Evansic then said, "So just to summarize that, we tie into the Manchester system, they've got a meter on where that tie in happens and we have a meter as well because we were seeing high flow rates and high charges," Ms. Douglas agreed and Ms. Evansic continued, "and when there was a discrepancy and everything looked horrible you guys went out and looked and it turned out that the blockage was in Manchester's line but it was backing things up to their meter and making them believe it was coming from Alpine Court." Ms. Douglas responded by saying, "yeah it was actually in the metering manhole where they have the flow meter." Mr. Sills asked, "is that on the Manchester side of the river?" To which Ms. Douglas stated, "No this is the Alpine, so there's a section in the northeastern corner of the Town that flows into the Manchester system. Actually, if you look up on the map I handed out, it's also on your screens, you'll see at the top right, you can see there's some green pipes that connect into the Manchester side." She continued, "So that connects to their metering station that's at the end of Alpine Court in Manchester." Mr. Sills then said, "Then we have to ask, where is the grease coming from?" Ms. Douglas stated, "There is some history from the condominiums over there, so what we did is we did create a residential grease brochure and we've been mailing it out to everybody and let them know that we've been seeing issues in the system from grease, very specifically to their neighborhood, a letter was sent with the brochure attached. That was done about a month ago." Mr. Sills then added that there are specific requirements for grease traps for major contributors, to which Ms. Douglas responded by saying, "Yeah, unfortunately there's no requirements for residential." Mr. Sills questioned why so much grease was getting into the system to which Ms. Evansic then asked, "is it just that that manhole doesn't get cleaned very often?" To which Ms. Douglas responded, "So we do pay for Manchester to clean that. That is on our sewer bill, however talking with the Environmental Protection Division, which is a different division than the Public Works in Manchester that actually cleans it, it doesn't sound like they have great access to that manhole with their trucks and so they just clean the line going up to that and not that actual manhole. So that's something that we have to make sure we stay on top of in the future. Flow Assessment jumped in there with the scrubber brush and actually just

scrubbed the channel and that immediately made such a huge difference in it. So that's something that we are going to make sure we are doing at least quarterly." Mr. Sills then asked, "To see if it comes back?" to which Ms. Douglas responded by saying exactly. Mr. Sills then said, "it doesn't make a lot of sense, but if there is a meat packing plant or restaurants." Ms. Douglas responded by saying that it's all residential. Ms. Evansic then said, "so you were saying if you can demonstrate that situation doesn't reoccur that there's some sort of recompense with Manchester?" to which Ms. Douglas responded that that's correct, affirming for Ms. Evansic that that is ongoing currently. Ms. Evansic then asked if anyone else had anything to say regarding this issue, no one did, Ms. Evansic then moved to the next item on the agenda.

6. Status Update on Flow Metering 2026

Ms. Douglas begin by saying "We are moving forward with the flow metering study for 2026, we have all of our flow meter locations selected, we ran it by a consultant, and they were able to confirm the locations and suggest a few tweaks, and so we are going to be moving forward with that as soon as possible. We want to get it in before the weather starts really changing so we have a good baseline flow."

Mr. Sills commented, "so far the weather changing, i.e. rain, hasn't dug a lot of it up."

Ms. Douglas replied, "Right, the ground has been very frozen so hopefully it'll be a nice wet spring for us to have a good baseline in there but as we move forward with this, we'll really be able to see what's going on." Mr. Sills then chimed in, "here's a fun fact, back then, the state required a coating on the inside of our CP pipe preventing it against detergent degradation and things like that, and it's still working I guess."

Ms. Douglas then asked, "is that on the interceptors?" to which Mr. Sills said yes. Ms. Douglas then continued, "so in the last Tving in 2017 on that it did look like some of that was peeling off, so that will be the first thing that we TV this year on our Tving program will be the interceptors just to get an update on what that's looking like because it's been 9 years since that was Tved last." Mr. Sills responded by saying "You're way ahead of us old people like me, have you guys figured out whether you would recoat it or just let it degrade?" Ms. Douglas then said, "at this point what we would do is go in and first thoroughly clean out the pipes, get as much off as possible, and then it will probably be the cheapest solution to just line it. It will provide some more structure. Once we get the assessment on that, and we have information on infiltration it will help us prioritize where the projects should be." Ms. Evansic then moved us to our next agenda item.

7. Notice of Sleeve Under Route 101 to be Converted to Water Sleeve Conceptually

Once Ms. Evansic read the agenda item aloud Mr. Sills asked, "is that the one by the Copper Door? One went under 101 over there." Ms. Douglas responded, "No, it's down by Wallace Road." Ms. Evansic then asked, "Didn't you guys just do something over there?" Ms. Douglas replied stating, "There is a private project that's happening over there. So, this is a sewer sleeve that we put in years ago, there's been some talk about what's going to end up happening with this sleeve. Is the Sewer Department actually

going to use it, are we going to expand out here? Or is this going to be used as a water sleeve instead? I know there's some developments that have been looking into that, so I don't know the full history of it but that has come up and that Water/Sewer Advisory Committee should obviously have some say and maybe this actually ties in to the next item as we get into our future water and sewer availability but with potential developments looking at using the sleeve for water, we should have an understanding of what we want to do with the sewer and water in the Town first so we can make a recommendation to Council." Mr. Sills then chimed in, "here's a fun fact number two, back in the day, when 101 was being upgraded, consultants that the Town hires would automatically put a sleeve under the road while they are building it back up so you didn't disturb it, and if you never used it, you never used it, so that's why it's there. And it wasn't a big cost if you didn't end up using it. We did a thing out there with sewage out there for the shopping center when it was IGA, but it was horrendously expensive, was there someone considering?" Ms. Hebert responded by saying, "I think the Town studied extension of sewer from the Village shops to the intersection of 101 and Wallace Road." Mike Trainque added via phone call, "We actually did a complete design," Ms. Hebert agreed and then continued, "I believe it was not something that we land owners wanted and the Town Councilor at the time wanted to invest in because it was very expensive and there would be a fee that would be applied to the land owners along the corridor and they had functioning onsite septic systems and there didn't seem to be enough of the return on investment at the time. But a private line has been extended from the school to serve the apartments on Chestnut Drive." Mr. Sills then said, "Mike probably knows this, the Village Shops side, they rebuilt their system with galleries under the parking lot, I think, when they redid the Village septic system." Ms. Hebert responded saying, "I think they have a tie in to the sewer system at the Village Shops." Ms. Evansic then asked what we are looking at on the screens, she asked, "are those the existing sewer lines?" To which Ms. Douglas responded, "Yes, those are the existing sewer lines or sewer sleeve at the bottom left right there at Wallace Road. There are no private lines here, this is only showing what the Town owns." Ms. Douglas acknowledged that there is a comment from the public. "Brian Desfosses, DPW Director, I just wanted to further inform the committee regarding this request. It's not an active request at this time, but it is something that has been discussed for the past two years. A private developer is looking to potentially use this sleeve. So, there is a sleeve that goes across 101, it was installed at the time 101 was reconstructed. And then there was a line that also goes across Wallace Road on the south side of that intersection as you're looking at it. The current waterline that is owned by Pennichuck currently dead ends on the east side of Wallace Road right near the slip ramp that goes into what was Harvest Market and is now the Wicked Good Butcher. The intent is to potentially take that line and run it south across 101 and over into Wallace Road for future development. Conceptually Public Works has worked with developer and the landowner indicating that we would be amenable to it but it should be correctly in front of the committee and then eventually if it were to happen would need to get by in from Town Council because it's a Town asset so we simply wanted the committee to be aware and perhaps think about this relative to our sewer master plan update because if we were to commit this to water usage, obviously it would never be available again to be used for sewer. We just want to make sure we

are making the right decision for the Town and that the committee and the Town Council are well informed. I can answer any questions you might have." Mr. Sills then asked, "What's the diameter of our sleeve?" Mr. Desfosses responded, "That's a great question," Then Ms. Hebert asked, "do you know if the folks on Wallace Road..." Ms. Douglas said, "It looks like its 8inch." Mr. Sills then asked, "You think its 8?" Mr. Desfosses responded, "I don't think that's right, I think its actually bigger than that. I remember we updated the GIS right afterwards because I couldn't remember what the number was." Our GIS Coordinator controlling the screens checked his data and confirmed that it is a 12 inch sleeve. Mr. Desfosses then said, "the pipe across 101 is a sleeve, and so it's a little bit bigger. The pipe across Wallace Road is not a sleeve, it's an actual pipe and there is a manhole over in the corner. Continental Paving had installed this at the time when they were working on Route 101, so we actually dug back to their records. It is going to be a one shot deal, the end result of this, its not going to be able to have sewer and water cohabitate within the sleeve." Ms. Evansic then asked, "Where is the end goal of that going?" Mr. Desfosses replied by saying, "So the conversations have occurred relative to the parcel that would be on the south east corner, as the property further to the south east is developed, that's the Dumas property, there is a potential provision to obtain sewer from that property and water using this sleeve that would allow something to be built on that south east corner that would have access to water and sewer. Perhaps Director Hebert could further that, I know she's been in contact with those landowners."

Mr. Sills then said, "here's a sidebar, again a bunch of us old people that work for the agency recently we went to the Manchester Water and Sewer Committee meetings, the State of New Hampshire is like 60% plus groundwater source, that's very bad. No other state is like that. No one wanted to jump the gun, Massabesic could probably handle it, but Manchester didn't want to get involved. In other words, any place we could put in formal water and get people off their wells is going to be good for the Town and the State. Right now, it's not a tremendous thing but if you continue to rely on groundwater for drinking, is suicide. So, I vote water." Ms. Hebert then asked, "Do we know if the PFAST readings on the property on Wallace Road are high or if there are any issues in that area?" Mr. Desfosses responded saying, "I don't know that."

Ms. Evansic then asked, "How would that impact the neighboring properties, I know I keep asking this because I keep forgetting, are they required to tap in once it goes by and how much does that impact the ones that would be along that water corridor?"

Mr. Desfosses responded saying, "This would eventually be owned by Pennichuck, it can't be privately owned, DOT would not allow a private utility to exist, but unfortunately Pennichuck has this rule where they can't extend water themselves.

And so, this would have to be privately constructed and then turned over to Pennichuck. I am not sure what the rules would be relative to forcing owners to connect if you will." Ms. Hebert then said, "There is not a mandatory tie in, and many people will elect to tie in because of the water quality concerns. I think you also have the Walgreens and the shops at the French Atwood marketplace that might benefit from having a water source." Mr. Sills responded saying, "Final note, I can't imagine it but if wastewater was needed in that area, you can still go under 101 if you built a tunnel under the Everett, you could still do that if you had to get under 101. It's too bad about DOT, but you can't open cut, you could never allow that." Mr. Desfosses

then said, "I believe that the line that was installed across 101 was much smaller than originally desired because of the presence of ledge and so I think if you did that you would probably end up having to core through rock to install that line. I should also note that it would be a requirement of this developer were they to take over and use this sleeve, they would have to reimburse us, the Town, for any and all costs that were associated with installing both those lines, and so we know what those costs are and they would have to reimburse the Town for that, that would go back into the sewer fund." Ms. Evansic then said, "This is a planning commission issue more but is that intersection going to be affected where that construction of anything to that intersection affected that sleeve anyway, if they go and put something amazing in that parcel?" Ms. Hebert responded by asking, "Potentially, would there need to be changes to the intersection?" Ms. Evansic replied "yea" to which Ms. Hebert continued, "Potentially, depending on the traffic volumes." Ms. Evansic then asked, "and would they go deep enough to be impacting that sleeve anyway?" Ms. Hebert said, "I don't think they would be changing 101 I think they'd be changing the Wallace Road approach." Ms. Evansic nodded in agreement and said "okay."

Ms. Evansic then asked, "So what are you looking for from us on this item?"

Ms. Douglas responded by saying, "We want you to be aware of it, and then as part of item #8 on here, as we start going through this we're going to ask that there's some type of recommendation be made to Council for expansion of water and sewer, as we moved forward with the sewer master plan and so this will obviously will be a huge part of that so we wanted to bring it to the forefront before we got into the rest of that discussion." Ms. Evansic replied by asking, "Okay is there anything more that you wanted to say about this before we roll into item #8?" Ms. Douglas responded by saying, "I don't have anything, I think it can be incorporated as other recommendation to the Council as part of #8." Mr. Desfosses then said, "I'm not sure a recommendation is really warranted at this time. I think we just wanted to sort of inform the committee. I haven't had any discussions with this developer for probably a year now. What I didn't want to happen is have the committee be unaware of it and then all of a sudden, we need an answer very quickly, I wanted this to be background information as we go through the rest of the work the committee needs to do." Ms. Evansic responded by saying, "I think that's great, I appreciate it being brought up." Ms. Hebert then asked, "From an engineering standpoint, if this sleeve is used for water, it will be very difficult to extend the sewer system towards the west, correct?" Mr. Desfosses said, "correct, thank you." Ms. Evansic then asked, "okay so how do we move on to #8? Do we have a presentation?"

8. Water and Sewer GIS map presentation and high discussion on future water and sewer availability

Ms. Douglas began by saying, "We have Brandon Boisvert our GIS Coordinator here and at one of the previous meetings it was mentioned that he had done a presentation a couple of years ago and it was well received and so he's going to start out our topic of water sewer master plan by going over where he's at with our water and sewer GIS." Ms. Evansic then said, "I just want to say I am a big GIS fan so have fun presenting because I love it." Mr. Boisvert responded by saying, "Glad to hear it. My name is Brandon Boisvert, I am the GIS

Coordinator, Engineering Technician for the Department of Public Works. Since I was last here, we've worked with John Jackman on developing our wastewater/asset management plan and a big part of that was just going through and verifying the age of our pipes, the diameter, and other attributes that's going to be useful for life cycle cost estimates and helping Erica with her capacity understanding. There's not too much to add to the mapping other than that we've discovered there's big deficiencies in private lines and service lines and that those are going to be priority for us going forward. Beyond that, working on tie cards as well and making things a little more accessible in the field but overall, this isn't the best place it's ever been on this map. I know the real intention today was to show where sewer could potentially expand in to. Some of the interesting things we have shown here is the sewer pipe by age, which I thought is kind of a nice way to view things. So, you have on the left our legend, which basically says yellow is the oldest and red is the newest, orange would be in between. So, you can kind of see the development of the sewer line over time. It's funny that we are always talking about the sewer system as being very young and it's starting to approach the 50 year mark. It's definitely good that Erica is here to do some proactive asset management." Ms. Evansic then asked, "Can I derail you for a second? I know we haven't done the flow metering yet but when I look at the reds and the yellows and all that, I'm wondering do you know which lines are insufficient or of a diameter that's not large enough for the flows that you currently see?" Ms. Douglas responded by saying, "We don't right now, that's one of the big things that we'll be doing as part of the master plan update, so that when developments do come online we are tracking that, knowing what our capacity of the line is and then we are creating criteria for a threshold where those lines will need to be upgraded. That'll be very important moving forward and that will all be part of our master plan." Looking at the map, Mr. Sills then asked, "Is that yellow line next to the Everett, the furthest line, is that the town interceptor, is that in their easement that we put in or is that on property?" Mr. Boisvert asked, "Which one exactly?" Mr. Sills then said, "There's an interceptor from whatever the pub is called now, instead of running it in the back alleys of the mall we're able to get it into the easement of the highway, so that sewer is built into the easement, the Everett turnpike, then it crosses over at the road where Walmart used to be. So, I'm not sure what that yellow is." Ms. Hebert then asked, "Do you mean the yellow underneath the 101 bridge?" Mr. Sills said, "No the furthest yellow, the one that goes along..." Mr. Boisvert zoomed in on the map and circled a yellow line with his cursor asking Mr. Sills, "Right here?" to which Mr. Sills said, "yes." Mr. Boisvert responded by saying, "I think this might serve the church property." Ms. Douglas confirmed that that's correct. She said, "We have it as the lateral for the church." Mr. Boisvert added, "We have it as an 8 inch, PVC, gravity, it's considered private." Mr. Sills asked, "Is it the Presbyterian church?" Mr. Boisvert responded, "No there's a church here off of Hawthorne Drive, you take Station Road and it's just on the left." Mr. Boisvert pulled up the parcel information and confirmed, "Trinity Life Community, 12 Station Road, so that's what that services there." Ms. Evansic then said, "Take you on a quick side quest, if you zoom in on the three pipes going under the river, those are the pipes that we were talking about earlier, just pointing it out for the people at home." Mr. Boisvert then said, "Unless you have any questions on this, I think I can start showing you just where we have water, where we have sewer and where there's potential opportunities." Ms. Evansic responded by saying, "Sure go for it." Mr. Boisvert continued, "So I am just going to use these polygons, I think that's more beneficial."

Basically, everywhere there's these green thick lines are where we have existing sewer. You can see there's a lot of opportunity where there's waterlines without sewer. Erica, I don't know if there's anywhere you want me to look in particular." Ms. Douglas responded, "So for right now when we had done the original sewer master plan there was several areas that were identified as possible expansion opportunities. There was what we were just talking about before, the Route 101/Nashua Road area as an expansion, there was the area just up by Alpine Court, expanding that up to some of those side streets there, the Pines area, and then the Sebbins Pond area, which I know you guys have discussed before. So those were the areas that were identified during that original sewer master plan. As we moved forward, we wanted to make a recommendation to Council whether we wanted to look at those same area, if anything else should be included, and also to note the Greenfield development is not part of this discussion, down in the southern part of the Town, that actually flows to Merrimack. That is at capacity right now, and as part of our sewer master plan we are not proposing any additions or expansions or anything to that system that might be a future project area upgrade or reconstruction but as part of this discussion that this would not be part of that so we just want to focus on what was hit in the original master plan and what flows to Manchester." Mr. Sills added, "That's locked in, there's no real good way to get sewage from there to a connection to our system anyway, so you got to go to Merrimack. Ms. Douglas stated that's correct. Ms. Evansic then asked if you should ask a clarifying question, "The Alpine Street when that ties in, does that flow down to the same siphon system or does it connect to Manchester and not run through the siphons?" Ms. Douglas responded, "That's correct, the second one, so it does not connect to our siphon station, it flows into Manchester's system, at that point, which is why it is a separate metering station." Ms. Evansic then asked, "So would the Pines area be expected to connect through Alpine or connect down into..." Ms. Douglas stated, "So there are two areas that were looked at for that. One of that would be connecting into the pump station down on Constitution. There was also a gravity system that they were looking at down onto Boynton Street. So, there's a couple of different options that we could get flow down into our existing system from there." Mr. Sills asked, "That line that you have the arrow on, is the forced main from Market Basket?" Ms. Douglas responded, "Yes, and that connects into the existing Constitution system, so it could easily connect into the existing pump station there or it also could be serviced by gravity which is also a nice option." Ms. Evansic then said, "I'll stop interrupting if you got more, if you have an agenda, go for it." Mr. Boisvert stated, "My agenda is to help you work through, you know exploratory of the potential options that you have, so if you want to look at certain areas..." Ms. Douglas then said, "So as part of this discussion we had sent out a memo, and I'll just kind of run through some of that. We wanted to just make sure that we were really hitting on certain criteria that we were looking for in there because there are certain constraints to our system. Our system does have to look at our IMA with Manchester and so any major upgrades would have to be designed and coordinated with Manchester based off our BOD and TSS and flow requirements. We do have to still have some capacity there so all of this is an option. As we move forward with our flow metering, we'll learn more about our system as part of that, what our wet weather response is, what our inflow and infiltration reduction needs to be, and then we'll coordinate with Manchester Waterworks and Pennichuck for any of the water expansions in there. Some other issues we want to think about are the public health and environmental protection, so including septic systems that

might be failing, contamination to the water quality in areas, so that primarily would be the Sebbins Pond area. So those are some considerations we need to think about as we make these recommendations. There is, I'll kind of jump back to Brandon because you do have more information on where we are going with Sebbins Pond and some funding available." Mr. Boisvert replied, "We are currently working with VHB and DES on a watershed management plan for Sebbins Pond and Sandy Pond. We're jumping the gun but we're just assuming that based on the TMDL for Sebbins Pond, we are assuming the primary recommendation is going to be putting sewer in this area because we believe the septic's are likely the main contributor of phosphorus to the pond. There may be funding, I know in the past we had talked with DES about doing a sewer project and we didn't move forward with it, I think it was \$18 million or something like that. We thought it was a lot more responsible to do this watershed management plan first, and that's all funded by the state as well using their SRF program." Ms. Evansic then added, "As I recall, last year we recommended more testing, right? Because the data was so old?" Mr. Boisvert responded by saying, "Yes, so that's going to be a part of this they're going to be water quality assessments then VHB is going to work on developing recommendations based on that. And just an overall watershed management plan, I assume, well I hope that we're not going to be left with just a recommendation of put in a sewer, there should be a little more to that. That is more focus on the water quality standpoint. But like I said sewer would help alleviate some of the phosphorus inputs, but we don't want to get ahead of the study itself." Ms. Evansic responded, "Well, I can tell you straight off that my biggest concern is that we aren't overflowing the siphon, that we are not exceeding its design and incurring a billion dollar replace your siphon kind of a thing, so would what we are looking at with Sebbins Pond be going through that system under the river? And how would that impact the capacity of that system?" Ms. Douglas replied, "So all of that would be modeled, but my understanding of Sebbins Pond is that would be on a pump station so there wouldn't be as much of a direct impact to the system because of that, but all of that will be able to be modeled moving forward in the future once we have that." Mr. Sill then said, "One of the other alternatives would be a central community septic system, that is in a perfect spot and is monitored rather than built sewer up. Individual homes might have problems, maybe, but there is also a central septic system alternative." Ms. Hebert responded, "They might not have enough land area to do that." Mr. Boisvert said, "That's good to know, we certainly don't have any predetermined outcome on our side, we want to be open to all options." Ms. Douglas continued, "To jump back in there, some other factors we want to think about as we look at these areas again with new eyes, obviously, constructability, topography, utility conflicts, land use goals, zoning, and economic development objectives. And then one of the biggest factors, trying to coordinate any type of water/sewer expansion, if any of those are proposed, with planned roadway projects, that way the water and sewer installations wouldn't have to be double paying for pavement or other expenses like that that can all be coordinated and planned together as one project. So those were just some of the items we wanted to keep in mind as we talked about this. What we can do is go through each individual area that was in the original sewer master plan, we have the Pines area, that was primarily residential subsurface disposal on small lots, generally deep rapidly percolating sands in that area. There is water there, just no sewer system. I wanted to kind of open that up for thoughts." Ms. Evansic then stated, "So I'm still as the, the primary thing is that siphon, I can't get past that, right? So when I look at the plans and I know

when we talked about Sebbins Pond before, we were concerned about the cost to the homeowners in that area and the cost to Bedford residents as a whole for doing that remediation but it still seems as though if Sebbins Pond is the most concerning, environmentally that should be the priority of focus for the master plan. Does that make sense Mike, where I am going with that?" Mr. Sills replied, "We'll see how the numbers come out. Developments by lakes and ponds is very tricky, particularly when they look at septic systems." Ms. Evansic then added, "The houses there at Sebbins Pond are so densely packed, you know, are all right there together." Mr. Sills continued, "It gets into the technical part of phosphorus from the septic system under the leaching field, somehow getting to a water body versus failure, running it on top of the land. So that's the kind of thing we have to look at. It's a very technical issue to see in detail. But yeah, we should be looking at that first." Ms. Hebert then said, "Not looking at priorities but instead looking at where future sewer should be in town, I think it makes sense to keep the Sebbins Pond area within the sewer master plan. It's where we have higher density of residential homes, we have water, it's an area that may benefit from sewer extension. I would keep it in the sewer district, and the sewer master plan sets the boundary of the sewer district so that is where the Town decides it would like to see future sewer extensions. You know, regardless of priority, if a developer wants to extend sewer outside of the sewer district, it requires special approval from the Town Council. I think it's important to think big picture with this and I understand there will be priorities from the committee within the sewer district, but we should also be thinking about where it may make sense for future development because it's more of a hurdle for the development community if land is not in the sewer district. It's also a statement to the development community; we don't want to see higher density development at this point. Ms. Douglas continued, "Great, thank you, so then next one is that north Boynton Street east of Route 114. There's planned growth support where it's feasible, and it's consistent with zoning, so is there any discussion to be had in that area as well?" Ms. Hebert replied saying, "Maybe it's not the priority but it makes sense to keep in within the sewer district." Ms. Evansic stated she agrees with that. Ms. Douglas continued, "We've already talked a little about Sebbins Pond, we have started that watershed management plan that Brandon spoke about, and then Route 101/ the Nashua Road to Covenant Way, it's a commercial corridor support and planned growth." Ms. Evansic asked, "Where does that end that Covenant Way?" Ms. Hebert replied, "The Bethany Covenant Church, Covenant Way is a class 6 road, so it's an unimproved road that would connect to County Road at the intersection with Wallace." Ms. Evansic then asked, "So they already have water?" Ms. Hebert said, "No, it extends to Covenant Way, Route 101 goes uphill towards the church, though I believe from a feasibility standpoint the system could extend to Covenant Way then flow down to a pump station at the intersection with Wallace Road." Ms. Evansic then asked, "And then it would tie into the line at the high school?" Ms. Hebert said, "Yes at Nashua." Ms. Evansic then asked Mr. Sills where he was at with this, to which he responded, "There was a change over, my PHD advisor was a Canadian Engineer that redesigned septic rules, how fast things get into the ground under the leaching field and so all the states changed their codes, a lot of that, the area where Walmart used to be and the rest of the town is on a modern septic system design, plus it's a big lot, so I'm not feeling a lot of stress there. Now there are various super systems that can be put in, but I don't see a lot of risk out there." Ms. Evansic then asked, "How does that match with zoning, is that whole thing a development corridor? Is that why its highlighted

for sewer?” Ms. Hebert responded, “It’s a commercial zone along 101, it’s an area that the Town, through its master planning has designated a locally survey and commercial corridor, so it’s intended to have smaller commercial uses to serve Bedford residences as opposed to regional commercial area like South River Road where you have more businesses and more of a regional draw. I think that through the master plan the folks of Bedford express concern about higher density development along 101 and wanted to see the least amount of change along the 101 corridor heading west from Wallace Road, so I would say maybe this section could come out of the sewer district or something to be studied to be removed from the sewer district.” Ms. Evansic responded, “I think that’s appropriate, because I agree, when you look at that stretch, people are already concerned about traffic and stopping to access those, I know density, there is a concern. In my opinion that would be the least priority of expansion of the system. And then I know I read in this that you were suggesting additions to the...” Ms. Douglas responded, “Yes, if there were any areas that we wanted to add to this, we could potentially talk about that. I didn’t have any proposed, but I wanted to leave that as an option as well, if there was something we wanted to look into and study in the future.” Ms. Evansic then asked, “Other than the one that you already presented about that sleeve, that would be privately developed, is there anything that has been brought by the community that we should be looking to add to the master plan?” Mr. Desfosses responded, “I would say, only that development that we discussed, in which case, that sewer would actually be privately owned it wouldn’t be part of the Town’s system because it would effectively piggyback on other private systems that already send sewage to the high school.” Ms. Hebert commented, “So that large parcel to the southeast of the 101 and Wallace Road intersection would benefit from having both sewer and water.” Mr. Desfosses interjected, “If I could just correct myself, I did find the information on that sleeve and that line that Mike had asked about. I was correct in that the sleeve is actually larger than 8 inches, it’s an 18 inch sleeve that comes out across 101, there is an 8 inch ductile line within it. The portion that is unsleeved is actually the portion that goes south from that manhole that I discussed at the intersection, and that line is 12 inch SDR pipe. What I neglected to remember is that the line across Wallace Road is also sleeved so effectively that 12 inch line comes further south to another manhole and then extends west across Wallace Road, also in an 18 inch sleeve and that is also an 8 inch ductile line. So, I’m sorry about that. Thank you.” Ms. Evansic then said, “If I’m jumping the gun tell me, but what we are looking at is that we agree with retaining the Pines area, the Boynton Street study area, the Sebbins Pond, and we would recommend removing the Route 101/Nashua Road to Covenant Way from the sewer district master plan study, however that does not mean we are going to prejudice that private development. Does that work for you Mike?” to which Mr. Sills and the rest of the committee were in agreeance. Ms. Hebert then asked, “And the process for beginning the sewer master plan update would involve hiring a consultant, and there may be some outreach with the community or with this group?” Ms. Douglas responded, “there would absolutely be, there would be a lot of communication with this group, and we’d be reaching out for public input, and also presenting any studies and findings to the Council.” Ms. Evansic asked, “So what do you need from this committee for that to proceed?” Ms. Douglas responded, “So for this we’ll make a recommendation, we’ll draft up a recommendation from this for Council. Brian and I have talked about putting the sewer master plan in as a CIP project this year, and with that the recommendation from the Water Sewer Advisory Committee, and if that’s approved

and the funding is available, we'll start moving forward with that." Ms. Evansic asked, "Do you need a motion or something official from us?" Ms. Douglas responded, "Yes, I think a motion for those areas, and even if you wanted to make Sebbins a priority we could include that as well." Ms. Evansic then said, "Mike, technically, as the chair I'm not allowed to make a motion." To which Mr. Sills replied, "Oh, right, I make a motion on a preliminary basis, those areas we discussed for the master plan study." Ms. Douglas seconds the motion. Ms. Evansic asked, "All in favor?" to which all responded in favor.

9. Set the Next Meeting Date – May 14, 2026

Ms. Evansic said, "Okay, let's see here, set the next meeting date." She then as, "Wait, is there anything else? Am I right? Are we good, is that the agenda?" Ms. Douglas replied, "That is the agenda, and just for that it has been requested that we change the time from 7:45am – 8:30am." Mr. Sills then asked, "Until when?" Ms. Douglas then confirmed, "8:30 in the morning." Mr. Sills then questioned, "Still on Thursdays?" Ms. Douglas then confirmed, "Yes, Thursdays." Mr. Sills responded, "That's a problem for me, I have a 10 O'clock class..." He then mulled it over and agreed to 8:30am on Thursdays providing there will still be coffee and donuts. Everyone agreed. Ms. Evansic asked, "Do I need a motion for that, well you guys so moved. Okay, motion to adjourn." Mr. Sills and Ms. Douglas second. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 am.