Town of Swanzey, New Hampshire
Water & Sewer Committee Meeting
Whitcomb Hall, Main Street, Swanzey, NH
Meeting Minutes – April 2, 2026

Note: Minutes are subject to review, correction, and approval by the Commission. Review, correction, and approval of minutes generally occur at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission.

CALL TO ORDER
The meeting of the Swanzey Water & Sewer Committee was called to order by Chair Scott Self at 10:06 a.m. Committee members present: Chair Self, Vice Chair Pat Ambrosio, Stacey Goodale, Steven Bittel, Sly Karasinski Cathy Bergstrom, Kenneth Greatbatch, and Larry Crowder.

ABSENT
Town Administrator Lori Rautiola

OTHERS PRESENT
Selectmen Jimmy Tempesta, Selectmen Bill Hutwelker, Public Works Director Joe DiRusso, and Assistant Town Planner Stephon Mehu.

PUBLIC INPUT
N/A

NEW BUSINESS
Update on Drinking Water Status
Director of Public Works, Joe DiRusso, informed the board on the progress of coordinating discussion of acquisition of the West Swanzey Water Company and its assets, as well as proposed improvements post-acquisition. He has been in contact with the manager for the facilities, Mark Houghton, and they are hopeful to sit down and discuss moving forward soon.

Update on Wastewater Status
DiRusso, provided an update the status of the Wastewater Treatment Facility. DiRusso informed the board that the lagoons previously continued to maintain permitting violations for phosphorous levels. As of recent, the sewer team has managed to eliminate phosphorous violations and greatly reduce copper to near permissible levels via a jar test.

Chair Scott Self proposed the addition of two clarifiers to mitigate the chemical and mineral level failures. The use of the WWTF's acreage and acquisition of abutting land for a large-scale, subsurface leach field to treat effluent was also suggested by Self. He then discussed the upcoming need to remove sludge from the lagoons. The addition of custom, floating covers for the lagoons is a potential addition for control of treatment conditions, especially during winter.

Self offered to reach out to previously utilized company to discuss removal of sludge by-product and potential execution of sludge removal for Summer 2026.

Next Meeting: April 23, 2026; Swanzey Wastewater Treatment Facility @ 10 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Scott to adjourn, second by Hutwelker, without further discussion. All were in favor. ***Motion passed.*** Adjournment occurred at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephon Mehu, Assistant Town Planner

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