

**January 11, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, January 11, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington Street.

Present: Kevin Muti, John Spillane, Roger Turner, Ken Fettig and Patrick Fasanello.  
Also, Rick Mattson, Supt. of Sewer and Water and Scott Gustafson, Asst.  
Supt. of Sewer and Water.

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

**Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to accept the minutes of December 14, 2009. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 4-0-1, Spillane abstained.

**Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to accept the executive session minutes of December 14, 2009. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 4-0-1, Spillane abstained.

**Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to accept the executive session minutes of November 30, 2009. Second by Kevin Muti. Vote 3-0-2, Spillane and Fettig abstain.

**Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to accept the minutes November 30, 2009. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 4-0-1, Spillane abstained.

**REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, MILLBROOK HOMES, ROUTE 1 – ORLANDI**

All available information is reviewed and discussed. It is determined that this is not in an aquifer area, the property has no town water (private wells) and is on septic. Mr. Fettig points out a problem with the comments from the Town Engineer regarding a right turn arrow that should be addressed. It is asked that a letter be sent to the Planning Board stating that this Board concurs with the Town Engineer's comments with one minor recommended change which is no left turn, not no right turn. This will be done.

**PRELIMINARY DESIGN FOR REHABILITATION OF DELANEY WTP**

Mr. Mattson asks the Board to look at page 9 where the figures are and states that the costs are frightening and at best way off from the previous engineers numbers. He reminds that this is not a bid, but rather primary figures. He says the original appropriation was \$760,000, of which \$60,000 has already been used. He plans to use the \$700,000 for dehumidification, rehabilitation of filters and valve replacement. The painting will be an alternate or postponed depending on what money is left and the strip towers will be delayed to the next phase. Mr. Muti asks if the strip towers are still effective and Mr. Mattson says yes. Mr. Spillane asks if it is a bid job and the answer is yes. Mr. Mattson adds that the SATM needs to vote for Phase 2 of the rehabilitation. He says the entire project will be borrowed because of the cost. There is discussion on aluminum versus stainless. Mr. Turner asks why there was so much deterioration and Mr. Mattson says it was the aggressiveness of the water. Mr. Fasanello asks about a GAC unit in addition to the strip towers and Mr. Mattson says they are both as effective however the strip towers remove carbon dioxide. He says this is a heads up that the SATM article for the continued rehabilitation of the Delaney Plant will be more money than originally thought. Mr. Turner asks where we are with a new tank at Old Post Road and Mr. Mattson says we are nowhere right now.

Mr. Fasanello says he is still waiting for FY08 figures on a spreadsheet. Mark Good, Finance Director will be asked again.

### **CAPITAL BUDGET SCHEDULE**

Mr. Mattson points out that the preliminary meeting with Capital Budget is Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> and will most likely have to go to 1 or 2 more, plus go to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee because capital improvements are involved. He would like to see the Treatment Plant on the Spring Annual Town Meeting. **Motion Made** by Roger Turner to place an article on the SATM for an appropriation for Phase II of the rehabilitation of the Delaney Water Treatment Plant. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0.

### **SITE PLAN DECISION AT 1311 NORTH ST**

This is a read and noted.

### **NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING – MOBIL, 750 MAIN ST**

Mr. Mattson says this is the gas station across from Country Kitchen, it is an ongoing process and it is outside the aquifer.

### **NATIONAL GRID YOP**

Mr. Mattson suggests that any of the Commissioners that might have the time should go on the website included in this document.

Mr. Fasanello would like to speak about the charges we encounter for right of ways over and under MBTA property. Since they do not pay us for entrance fees etc., he does not feel we should pay them. It is asked that Mr. Mattson paraphrase the wording they used for us. The rest of the Board agrees that if they are not paying us our fees then we should not pay theirs either. Mr. Mattson reports that he believes we pay for 4 of these at about \$360 each. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello not to pay for right of way fees that the MBTA is charging. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0.

### **WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM – SCHOOL/SEWER AND WATER PARTNERSHIP**

Mr. Fasanello says he put this on the agenda because he believes this is a good thing that we are doing and the more we do the more it will help with our upcoming water management permit. He says he previously spoke of supporting a portion of a science teacher that would teach water conservation. Mr. Mattson says we are already involved in a lot of conservation issues including the rebate program and recommends waiting to see how all of the current issues go. Mr. Muti suggests having the Superintendent correlate a checklist of what we are currently doing for water conservation and then go from there. This is the plan of action for now.

### **FY 2011 INDIRECT COSTS**

There is a question as to why we are being charged indirect costs for the septage facility when it hasn't been in operation for years. Mr. Mattson agrees and says he will check into it and get back to the Board with an answer.

### **T MOBIL SITE PLAN, WAGON RD., REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

Mr. Mattson updates the Board and says there is no reason for any disruption as there are no changes being made, just some additional antennae.

### **7:30 APPT. KEVIN MCKINNON, WESTON & SAMPSON AQUIFER STUDY APPROACH**

Mr. Fettig says he asked to be notified if we were going to meet with Weston & Sampson and Mr. Muti responds that this is not a one on one discussion. Mr. Fettig asks if any money is being spent on this and Mr. Muti says no and adds that we are trying to determine which direction to take and narrow down our focus. Mr. McKinnon says he is here to review how to address the scope of services for aquifer protection. He is proposing “baby steps” by looking at identifying regulatory inconsistencies and differentiate between zones and areas. Mr. Muti says he has asked Mr. McKinnon here to throw out the options on how to approach this and once a decision is made, then it can go out to bid. Mr. Mattson says he agrees with the concept of baby steps. He does not see a need to reinvent aquifer designations. Mr. McKinnon says all the data should be accumulated to make an informed decision. Mr. Mattson says the aquifer has been studied since the 50’s and most of the reports say the same thing and he feels there is no need to go crazy. It is not an easy process and it could run into a lot of money. Mr. Fasanello asks Mr. McKinnon if he is confident that our aquifer maps are accurately delineated and Mr. McKinnon says yes. There is discussion on the advanced technology, as well as political lines that would divide property versus physical lines. Mr. Fasanello feels there is a need to identify loopholes and to make sure the 40’ saturated thickness rule is not arbitrary and capricious. Mr. Fettig would like to confirm that the conversation tonight is to go ahead with a minor study. Mr. Muti says we need to break down the scope. Mr. Fettig asks if other firms will be allowed to get involved and Mr. Muti says they first need to develop a scope of service. Mr. Mattson says we are not required to involve other firms for this portion of the work. Mr. Fettig would like to confirm that we are not committing to anything tonight and Mr. Muti says no and then asks that this subject be included in the next agenda. Mr. McKinnon is thanked for coming to the meeting tonight.

### **DEED AND DEDICATION –156 BAKER STREET SEWER**

Ms. Thurston is present for this discussion. The as builds for the sewer at this address are provided as requested by the Commission. Mr. Fasanello inquires about the depth of the sewer and Mr. Mattson says that all the requirements regarding the sewer for this one house have been addressed. Mr. Fasanello asks about the 4” line and Mr. Mattson answers that this will go from a 4” to a 6” as all laterals in the town are 6 inches. There is a question of the other property that the Thurston’s are developing here and Mr. Mattson says this is the deed and dedication of the utilities in the public way for 156 Baker Street only and the Thurston’s have done all that they have been asked to do here. He sees no reason to prolong this matter. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to accept and sign the deed and dedication documents for 156 Baker Street as submitted tonight. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

### **JONES, 43 CAMPBELL ST., WATER BILL FOLLOW UP**

Mr. Muti has provided additional information that he received from the Town of Norfolk regarding how Mr. Jones is billed. There is discussion regarding the fact that a portion of Mr. Jones’ property is located in Walpole that he pays taxes on. After review of all available data from the Town of Walpole and the Town of Norfolk the Board feels Mr. Jones does pay taxes to the Town of Walpole and should not be included with those who receive a surcharge for out of town service. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to waive the \$100 annual surcharge (\$25.00 per billing period) for Mr. Jones at 43 Campbell Street. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0.

### **SATM WARRANT**

Mr. Mattson says the two articles that should be going on the warrant are Phase II Rehabilitation of the Delaney Water Treatment Plant and although he is not sure an article is required; an article for Inflow and Infiltration construction in the amount +/- \$475,000, the money would come from the I/I fund.

There is some discussion again on whether or not tear down the High Plain Street tanks and build one new tank, as the costs would be very close. Mr. Mattson says if the Board opted to build new he would recommend building it by the Duffy Tank until completed and then take down the High Plain Street tanks, so as to cause any major interruptions.

### **9 ELEANOR ROAD**

At the previous meeting the Board did not believe that they had the authority to issue payments as they have no funds to take them from. Ms. Metcalf, previous owner of 9 Eleanor Road was seeking money for sewer charges that were never billed or paid when provided. After investigating, it was determined that it was within the authority of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners to ask the Finance Director to issue a check if they chose to. All past minutes, correspondence and billing/payment data regarding this account was reviewed again and discussion was held. Discussion included the fact that Ms. Metcalf stated that she did not know she was not being billed for sewer and it was mentioned that the majority of her water bills had been removed to tax lien and perhaps this would be the reason for her not noticing there was not a sewer charge on the bills. The Board is in agreement that Ms. Metcalf received sewer service and should pay for the service she received. **Motion Made** by John Spillane not to abate any of the charges for sewer for 9 Eleanor Road as requested by Ms. Metcalf based on the fact that services were received and should be paid for like all our other sewer customers. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

### **SIMAZENE**

Mr. Mattson reports that the test results came in from the lab on Friday for the individual sources. He says Washington 6 is .2 ppb, Washington 2 is .057 ppb and Washington 3 is .059 ppb. He adds that there was no 24D and Washington 5 was not tested because it is out of service. There is discussion on the fact that simazene is an herbicide and that the results are just above the detectable limit. There is discussion on the use of a small GAC unit and the cost for it. Mr. Turner says we should do another round of tests. Mr. Mattson says he will investigate a GAC and continue to monitor quarterly. Mr. Fasanello says he does not care what the cost he does not want this in our water and Mr. Mattson says the GAC is the best available treatment for this. After discussion on testing the Board is told it costs \$2000 per test. The Board agrees there needs to be a baseline. Mr. Muti suggests another round of testing in about one month and depending on the outcome of these tests we will adjust the frequency of testing accordingly. The rest of the Board agrees to this suggestion.

### **FLUORIDE**

Mr. Fasanello says he asked for this subject to be included in the agenda as we have previously considered whether or not we want to continue to treat the water with fluoride. He feels it would be a good idea to conduct a public hearing to let the residents come in and voice their opinion on this. There is discussion as to how much of the water used in town is actually consumed. Mr. Mattson is asked how much it costs per year for the fluoride and he responds that he has budgeted for fy2011 an amount of \$45,000. The Board agrees that the residents have an alternative for their fluoride and it is not a

chemical that is needed to treat the water. It is decided that there should be a notice in the local newspaper in the fall for a public hearing to hear the views of other with regard to adding fluoride to the water supply.

**Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanella to adjourn. Second by Ken Fetting. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.