

January 13, 2014

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, January 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington St.

Present: John Spillane, Roger Turner, Ken Fetting, James Taylor and Patrick Fasanello.
Also, Rick Mattson, Supt. of Sewer and Water.

Mr. Fasanello would like to announce that he will be recording the meeting tonight and all subsequent meetings as per G.L. c. 30A §§ 18-25.

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

Motion Made by James Taylor to accept the minutes of November 29, 2013. Second by Ken Fetting. Vote 5-0-0.

Motion Made by James Taylor to accept the minutes of December 9, 2013. Second by Ken Fetting. Vote 4-0-1, Fasanello abstained.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STATUS REPORT

Mr. Mattson reports that his department has run into many problems with water leaks due to the cold/warm weather trend. They have had six frozen internal services which have been associated with drafts and broken windows. Two were at Swan Pond where the meters are in the garage and therefore must be heated on a daily basis in this cold weather to prevent this. He then tells of the nightmare on North Street. He says again as a result of the weather the cold did not allow them to perform the job as planned. The trench gets soggy and washes out downhill. It is a soggy situation that is requiring attention. They will continue to do their best to maintain the area until the weather allows them to correct the problem. Mr. Mattson then speaks of the capital and O&M budgets. He says the Board needs to decide what improvements they would like to take on for 2015. He adds that some of the projects are in the O&M budget; Articles 7&8 are the enterprise funds for sewer and water. He is suggesting that they may want to borrow for the repair and recoat for the Old Post Road tank which is estimated to be \$790,000. Mr. Fasanello asks what it would cost for new and the answer is \$2.2 to \$2.6 million. Mr. Spillane asks the cost to clean up the Duffy tank and the answer is \$350,000 which includes the mixing system and he has included in the Capital Budget. Mr. Mattson says the Board needs to make a decision as to what projects they wish to pursue prior to the warrant closing. He then asks how the Board would like to address the request by the Morningside Drive homeowners that are seeking abatements for the amount of water they had to use. Mr. Spillane asks what condition the area is in and Mr. Mattson says it is fine as long as they keep the water moving. There is discussion on how resolution of this problem will occur in the spring. Mr. Spillane asks if replacement has been put in capital and the answer is yes. Mr. Fasanello asks if we are still ahead of the game financially with regard to the North St. project with our own crew doing the work and the answer is yes. Mr. Mattson informs that on January 30 there will be a meeting in Sharon with regard to the impacts of the Water Management Act and he has reserved 4 spots. Mr. Fasanello and Mr. Spillane both say they would be interested in attending. Mr. Fasanello asks if any water service lines have frozen in this cold water and the answer is no.

CONCOM REQUEST FOR COMMENTS LOT 3 NORTH ST. & T. ENG. COMMENTS

All available information is reviewed and discussed. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to send a letter to the Conservation stating that this Board concurs with the comments of the Town Engineer. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0

CONCOM REQ. FOR COMMENTS LOT C NOI AND RDA W/ T.ENG COMMENTS

All available information is reviewed and discussed. Mr. Fasanello expresses concern over the requiring of a meter pit and Mr. Mattson explains that this is what we require if it is more than 100 feet. There is further discussion as to the chances of the pit filling up with water. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to concur with the comments of the Town Engineer with regard to the above subject. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0.

7:15 APPT. JIM WILLIAMSON, BARBERRY HOMES, MOOSEHILL RD.

Mr. Williamson has not arrived for his appointment. Mr. Moraski says they will be going before the ZBA on January 22 and wonders how this will be resolved prior to this. Mr. Mattson explains that the ZBA is fully aware of any comments this Board has. He says that Mr. Williamson cancelled at the previous meeting at the last minute because he did not have all the information ready. Mr. Moraski asks if the ultimate ruling is at the hands of the ZBA. Mr. Mattson responds that he would hope that they would not make any determinations regarding water and sewer until the applicant comes before this Board. Mr. Snuffer asks what the policy and procedure is in place for missed appointments. Mr. Fasanello says the Board would make it as convenient as possible and if asked they would move to the next available appointment. Mr. Hamilton speaks on Traphole Brook as an intermittent stream and Mr. Spillane says that has nothing to do with us. There is some discussion regarding sewer and the 200' buffer. Mr. Turner says ConCom is requiring peer review of the wetlands and their lines which has not been done yet. Mr. Fettig says he has issue with the applicant seeking relief on entrance fees for affordable units (40+ units). He says these fees can be made up by the applicant when he eventually sells them. Mr. Mattson recommends re-stating to ZBA that all water and sewer fees are applicable. Mr. Taylor says there will be no more pump stations allowed. An abutter of this project hands out a document from the DEP and says that they have issued a cease and desist until their recommendations are made which means no boards can make decisions until the DEP makes a determination. Mr. Spillane says the applicant did not appear as planned so this subject will not be discussed further tonight.

OPEN AND CLOSE DATES SATM WARRANT

Mr. Mattson reminds that the close date has been extended to February 4th and the Board needs to decide what they would like to put on the warrant for articles before this date which means we have one more meeting to decide.

2013 FATM ARTICLE APPROVAL BY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

There is no action required with this correspondence.

REQUEST FOR DECLARATION OF SURPLUS FOR BRASS STOCK

Mr. Mattson reports that this has been addressed by the Board of Selectmen and no action is required by this Board.

EXPLANATION OF LEAD REDUCTION PER DRINKING WATER ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. Mattson refers to his memo and explains the difference between the new amendment to the Drinking Water Act which went into effect January 4, 2014 and the Lead and Copper Rule. He explains that to comply with the new amendment they are forbidden to install any material to the water system that does not meet the lead free definition.

I/I BOND RELEASE HIGH OAKS IV/NORTHWOOD ESTATES

Mr. Mattson explains that this memo is to Walsh Contracting releasing him from his inflow and infiltration obligation for the High Oaks IV and Northwood Estates subdivisions. No action is required.

SUGGESTION FOR BROADCAST OF SEWER & WATER COMMISSION MEETINGS

A memo from the Board of Selectmen suggesting that the Sewer & Water Commissioners change their meeting location to the Town Hall for taping purposes is discussed. Mr. Fasanello says the reason we started meeting in this location because we were never guaranteed a meeting location at the Town Hall and were constantly being moved. He thought they were supposed to put a cable drop at this site. Mr. Fettig asks how this whole idea came about and Selectman Snuffer responds, Town Meeting. Mr. Snuffer says they cannot compel an elected Board to do this it is merely a suggestion. There is discussion and all are in agreement that if cable is installed at this location which would not be difficult, then they do not have a problem with taping. However this room was designed for our meetings and we wish to stay here. Mr. Mattson is asked to check with the IT person to see what the status is of dropping a line at this treatment facility.

7:45 APPT. PHASE 3 NORTH STREET SEWER

Mr. Viano presents two options of his plan to continue the installation of sewer another 250 feet. He says one option is the grass strip and the other is in the traveled way. He explains that the digging in the shoulder would be easier and cheaper however the Town Engineer says she would prefer it to be in the traveled way. He says he respects Ms. Walker and will install it wherever the Board determines that they want it. There is discussion and Mr. Fasanello asks what the advantage is of having it in the roadway. Mr. Mattson says there is no advantage he just wants it in the layout however he too respects the Town Engineer and if she is requesting that it go in the roadway then it should go there. Mr. Viano says he is comfortable either way. Mr. Moraski says he too spoke with Ms. Walker who explained to him that once in the shoulder and a new home is built with new landscaping it may disrupt their plantings. Mr. Fasanello says these people should know where their lot lines are. Mr. Moraski says he would prefer it in the shoulder because the cost for the homeowner to hook up would be 50% less than it would be if in the right of way. Mr. Viano says Mrs. Buttimer's lot and the adjacent lot at the adjacent lot at the farm stand would hook into the Warren Lane sewer and be part of the homeowners association. There is discussion on capacity and Mr. Moraski expresses concern over not enough capacity for the homes that are on North Street and proposed to be the homes that would connect as Mr. Glossa indicated that only 13 houses would be able to connect. Mr. Viano says this is not true and explains the reason. Mr. Spillane asks Mr. Viano what he is looking for from the Board tonight. Mr. Viano says he would like approval of the extension of the 250 feet as well as a determination of whether it will go in the shoulder or the paved way. **Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to approve

Mr. Viano's request to extend the sewer in North Street another 250 feet (aka public Phase 3 North Street sewer force main). Mr. Mattson asks about the inflow and infiltration and whether we should continue to collect as a condition of occupancy or our usual upfront requirement. He is told we must address this motion before addressing the I/I. Mr. Fasanello says he is still concerned why we would require the line in the pavement when it be ½ price to homeowners if put in the shoulder. Mr. Mattson says many times irrigation systems are put in the town layout and Mr. Fasanello says the homeowner is not supposed to do this and therefore it is their problem. Motion is seconded by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Fasanello asks if this is a real extension and Mr. Mattson responds by DEP definition, no and by town definition, yes. **Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to allow Mr. Viano to install the 250 feet of sewer that was just approved in the previous motion in to be laid in the shoulder of the town layout. Second by James Taylor. Vote 3-2-0, Spillane and Turner against. Mr. Mattson again asks for guidance with regard to when the cost for inflow and infiltration should be collected from here on. He is told this can be taken up during the rate hearing.

8:15 PUBLIC RATE HEARING

The rate hearing is opened by Chairman Spillane. He says the fee schedule should be approved unless there are any items that any member would like to hold for discussion. Mr. Fasanello says he would like to hold cross connection charges and inflow and infiltration charges. None of the other Board members wish to hold any other charges on the current fee schedule. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to re-approve the current fee schedule with the exception of the cross connection charges and the inflow and infiltration charges. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Fasanello would like to confirm that we charge \$100 per device for a test and no charge for a retest. Mr. Mattson says yes. Mr. Fasanello says he would like to see no charge for the first retest however any subsequent retest should carry a \$100 charge per device. There is discussion on this and Mr. Fettig asks if there have been any significant complaints within the past year. Mr. Mattson responds, no. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to charge \$100 per device for a test, give one free retest and if it fails again a charge of \$100 per test would apply. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

Inflow and Infiltration charges are discussed. Mr. Mattson says normal flows ranged between 1.8 and 2.7, which averages to 2.43 and therefore recommends 2.5:1 as a good starting point that would be justifiable. Mr. Fasanello says we paid a consultant to calculate this and his peak number was 2.744 and therefore feels this is the number we should use. Mr. Mattson says we may never hit this again and Mr. Fasanello says we also may go over this amount at some point. Mr. Moraski asks for an explanation as it relates to % and price per gallon. He is told that thousands of dollars have been spent to reduce I/I and the MWRA still charges 4:1. Mr. Snuffer asks if the MWRA will still charge us 4:1 and he is told we only pay I/I through our assessment which is the incentive to remove the I/I as it is based on flow. Mr. Snuffer asks what it would do to the enterprise fund arithmetically and Mr. Mattson responds nothing as the I/I money is a separate fund. There is discussion. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to change the ratio requirement for inflow and infiltration from 4:1 to 2.744:1. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Larry Pitman of the Finance Committee asks Mr. Mattson what the costs were to determine these figures and he responds it was approximately \$5,500 for the consultant and \$5,000 for legal. Ms. Josette Burke also of the Finance Committee asks if raising the cost to dispose at the Septage Facility from 5¢ to 7¢ offset the facilities cost of \$90,000 to reopen. Mr. Mattson says yes. Mr. Fasanello says there is still a case for us where we could say all other

towns should be using our site. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to close the public rate hearing. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

There is discussion on who pays and when the inflow and infiltration is paid. Mr. Snuffer says there needs to be a policy and procedure in place so it can be defended if need be. Mr. Fasanello says there is a saying of "buyer beware." Mr. Mattson says in the past the developer paid the full amount at the time of requesting approval of the subdivision. Mr. Pitman suggests including in our policies and procedures that no building permit will be issued until such time that all water and sewer fees are paid in full. Mr. Spillane says past practice was that the developer paid up front and this way the Town is protected. It is asked that this be put on the next agenda.

Mr. Fasanello says they never received an explanation regarding money that might be missing from our funds. He is told that an explanation was provided by the Town Accountant. He does not remember it and asks that it be provided again.

Board members had received a report via email from Mr. Mattson that was provided by GeoInsight regarding dioxane. There is some discussion and Mr. Fasanello says he believes their solution is dilution. Mr. Mattson says the tests show it has stabled and they are suggesting running Wash. 6 less and the others more. He estimates treatment cost to be \$1.5 million. Mr. Fasanello feels it would be a good idea to get lawyers involved as it would be more official. He says they caused the problem and it needs to be rectified as people expect untainted water.

Mr. Mattson asks if the Board is interested in offering any relief to the Morningside Drive residents as they requested for the water they had to run. The Board is in agreement that we should figure an average flow for them and credit them for the overage.

Mr. Mattson says that many years ago we installed sewer in the Calvert/Charlotte Road area and the Town purchased pumps for some of the homes which we held in storage until the individuals connected. The last home was missing the control panel and the homeowner was looking for consideration as it cost them +\$300. The bill is reviewed. **Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to pay \$342.00 to the homeowner through a sewer credit. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 4-0-0.

Motion Made by John Spillane to adjourn. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 4-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Accepted January 27, 2014

