

June 8, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, June 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington St.

Present: Patrick Fasanello, John Spillane, Roger Turner, William Abbott and Tom Brown. Also Rick Mattson, Supt. of Sewer and Water.

### **REORGANIZATION**

Roger Turner nominates John Spillane for Chairman. Patrick Fasanello seconds the nomination. There are no other nominations for Chairman. Vote 5-0-0.

Patrick Fasanello nominates Tom Brown for Clerk. William Abbott seconds the nomination. There are no other nominations for Clerk. Vote 5-0-0.

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

The minutes of April 27, 2015 are reviewed and discussed. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to accept the minutes of April 27, 2015 with the suggested amendments. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S STATUS REPORT**

Mr. Mattson reports that the little rain received took the edge off of the water demand. We are averaging 2.8 - 2.9 gpd. He says this is the driest May on record. Although we did get a lot of snow it was very much moisture deprived. He also says the groundwater is stable and not dropping anymore. He then tells that the Delaney repeat samples were negative and he is guessing that the contamination occurred in transit. Mr. Brown asks about the timeframe and Mr. Mattson explains that it is within 24 hours of notice from the lab.

Mr. Spillane announces that Mr. Fasanello is taping the meeting.

Mr. Mattson continues and says the High Plain Street project is very deep now, the PCB amounts have doubled and has come to a point that we are eating into the \$90,000 contingency. He says the Board needs to decide whether they want to leave the area and put a fence and sign up or go for more money. Mr. Spillane asks if he can get an estimate on the additional cost and Mr. Mattson answers yes and provides a diagram of the hotspots. There is some discussion on the possible cause of this contamination. Mr. Mattson then tells that his men started the Eastland Circle project today, they found no ledge. He expects it to be completed in 1-2 weeks and then the Board can decide on the betterments. The only other things he has to report are that the hydrant inspections are ongoing and there were 2 minor service leaks.

### **BD. OF APPEALS REQUEST FOR COMMENTS SPEC. PMT AND VARIANCE –EASTOVER RD.**

The information is reviewed and is considered a read and noted.

### **CONCOM REQUEST FOR COMMENTS BARBERRY HOMES NOI**

There is discussion on the information provided and it is considered read and noted.

### **7:15 APPT. ATTY JIM BRADY VINTAGE FARM RD. EASEMENT SIGN OFF**

Mr. Brady introduces the parties involved and then goes on to explain that during the mortgage survey plan it was discovered that the pool is in the easement that was provided. He provides a plot plan with his proposal to move the easement. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to approve and sign off on the movement of the easement as proposed by Mr. Brady. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0.

**CONCOM REQUEST FOR COMMENTS NSTAR NOI**

Mr. Mattson says this is information as NSTAR is putting more poles in. It is read and noted.

Town Administrator Jim Johnson arrived at this time.

**PLANNING BD. REQUEST FOR COMMENTS MEADOWBROOK RLTY SPEC. PERMIT & SITE PLAN**

Mr. Mattson cautions the Board and says this is something that we may want to keep an eye on as the sewer odor issue in the area may be enhanced because they are proposing to pump to a pump. There is discussion on the previous problem with the sewer odor. Mr. Mattson says it is not nearly as bad as it was. Mr. Spillane asks if it was smoke tested and Mr. Mattson answers yes, extensively. Mr. Mattson feels they need to hire an engineer to investigate this and pay the town for peer review. Mr. Fasanella says they will need a sewer extension permit from us. Mr. Mattson says they need to pay for our engineer. There is discussion on the possible causes of the odor. Mr. Brown mentions that galvanized pipe rots from the inside out. He also mentions that he has seen ejector pumps pull the water from the traps. Mr. Moraski points out that this site is in Area 3 of our recharge area and the amount of impervious cover is over what is allowed to which they are seeking a waiver. Mr. Snuffer adds that it is a significant amount. It is asked that a letter be sent to the Planning Board stating that this Board concurs with the comments of the Town Engineer and express our concern over their request for a waiver to the amount of impervious cover as it is in Area 3 or our recharge area.

**SEWER AND WATER PUBLIC RATE HEARING**

**Motion Made** William Abbott to open the public hearing. Second by Roger Turner. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Spillane says we will go through the current fee schedule and hold any of the charges that a Board member wishes to discuss and/or change. The Water Cost Rate is proposed to be \$54.88 and this is held. Mr. Fasanella questions the indirect cost charges which he says went up 16.3% which would mean every town worker works 1 hour for the Sewer & Water Commission The indirect charges are discussed. Mr. Fasanella says he would like to see these charges all broken out and Mr. Johnson says he has that information and will get it to Mr. Fasanella. Mr. Mattson says this formula was developed by the former Finance Director Dave Davison. He adds that based on the budgets voted at Town Meeting these are the figures. Mr. Cunniff of 935 South Street asks how much of the water rate hike is driven by the purchase of Jarvis Farm and Mr. Mattson responds approximately 8%. Mr. Cunniff then asks if there are any projected income from the farm that can offset the rate. Mr. Spillane explains the committee that has been put in place to find the best use of this property. Mr. Cunniff asks what happens to the money brought in and Mr. Johnson answers that this is up to the Sewer & Water Commission. Mr. Brown asks if any thought has been given to how we are going to pay this debt and Mr. Johnson answers the money has been borrowed. Mr. Brown then asks how we came up with paying this price as he feels we overpaid and Mr. Johnson responds that after negotiating we had to pay this price or be out of negotiations. Mr. Cunniff then suggests holding off on any water rate increase until there is a plan in place with regard to Jarvis Farm.

Discussion is had over water retained earnings and how they have been used in the past to subsidize the rates.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to set the Water Cost Rate at \$54.88/1000 cubic feet for fiscal year 2016.

Second by Roger Turner. Vote 4-1-0, Brown against.

Out of Town Water Cost Rate is held. Mr. Mattson says this is typically set at 25% higher than the in town rate.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to set the out of town water cost rate at \$73.17/1000 cubic feet for fiscal year 2016. Second by Roger Turner. Vote 5-0-0.

Seasonal Water Cost Rate is held and Mr. Mattson says that this is typically set 20% higher than the in town rate. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to set the Seasonal Water Cost Rate at \$68.60/1000 cubic feet for fiscal year 2016. Second by Roger Turner. Vote 5-0-0.

Entrance fees are then discussed. Mr. Mattson says we had planned to have our entrance fees reviewed every 5 years and this being the 5<sup>th</sup> year he suggests bringing Woodcock and Co. in to review our data to make sure our

numbers are correct. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to hire a firm as recommended by our Superintendent to justify our entrance fees. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0.

Septage Rate is held and discussed. Mr. Fasanello asks how much money has been made and Mr. Mattson says we have generated \$117,000. There is discussion and Mr. Mattson says he feels we will continue to generate money at 7 cents. Mr. Brown asks if we are in competition with others and Mr. Mattson says we used to be. He explains to Mr. Brown that the loads have to come from an MWRA community. Mr. Fasanello talks of the After Hours Surcharge and asks the hours of the facility and Mr. Mattson says 8:00 to 2:30. Mr. Fasanello would like to see the facility re-open after school gets out. Mr. Mattson explains the union contract hours. Mr. Brown asks if it costs us \$75.00 to bring someone in after hours and Mr. Mattson says no, for 4 hours it would be \$120.00. **Motion Made** by Tom Brown to change the After Hours Surcharge for the Septage Facility to \$120.00. Second by William Abbott. Vote 4-1-0, Fasanello against.

In Town Sewer Cost Rate is held. Mr. Mattson says it is proposed to \$86.44 which is a significant increase at 7.7% due to the MWRA increase and the first year payment of the MWRA loan. He says the MWRA Assessment is 75% of our rate and it increased 3.2%. Mr. Brown asks why we are raising the rate by 7.7% and Mr. Mattson responds that the operational costs went up. Mr. Spillane suggests throwing some of the retained earnings on the rate. There is discussion on future projects and their costs. Mr. Mattson calculates and if \$200,000 of the retained earnings is used there would be a 2.97% increase and the sewer retained earnings would go from \$1.6m to \$1.435m. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to use \$200,000 of sewer retained earnings to set the sewer rate at \$82.59/1000 for fiscal year 2016. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Mattson reminds that Town Meeting is the only one that can authorize the use of retained earnings so we will have to put an article for this on the FATM warrant.

Out of Town Sewer Cost Rate is the next fee that is held. Mr. Mattson says typically we increase this by 10 - 11% which would be \$91.77. Mr. Fasanello asks why we wouldn't do 25% like we did the water and Mr. Mattson responds that it is a Board decision. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to set the Out of Town Sewer Cost Rate 25% higher than the In Town Sewer Cost Rate or \$110.12/1000 cubic feet for fiscal year 2016. Second by Tom Brown. Vote 5-0-0.

**Motion Made** by William Abbott that all fees in the current fee schedule that were not held tonight remain as they are from fiscal year 2015 for fiscal year 2016 and that all fiscal year 2016 fees go into effect July 1, 2015. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to close the public hearing. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0.

### **CONCOM REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, NOI – 8, 26, AND 62 SOUTH STREET, BOH**

These buildings are being torn down and this Board has no concerns. It is a read and noted.

### **REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT, MCWEENEY, 195 MAIN ST**

Mr. McWeeney has written to the Board explaining that while away a pipe burst in his sunroom and flooded it. His daughter shut the valve off, however since this excess water did not enter the sewer system he is asking the Board for relief on the sewer charges. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to abate the excess sewer charged on this account and that all water is paid for. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0.

### **EASEMENT ACCEPTANCE – LEGACY LANE**

The Town Engineer is requesting that documents for utility easement on Legacy Lane be voted and signed as Town Meeting has voted it a public way. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to accept the easements for Legacy Lane and sign the acceptance documents. Second by John Spillane. Vote 4-1-0, Fasanello against.

### **GEOINSIGHT NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING RESULTS**

Mr. Mattson says he needs some direction from the Board as to what the Board wants to do with regard to the 1,4 dioxane. There is discussion on the federal government classification and the need for a pilot study. There is discussion and Mr. Mattson explains that the best treatment is carbon. Mr. Snuffer asks if the levels are

growing and Mr. Mattson says no. Mr. Brown asks why the company that caused the contamination is not responsible and Mr. Mattson explains that it is unregulated. Mr. Mattson says the DEP is aware of it and has not issued any directive and until it becomes regulated they probably won't and it therefore becomes a legal battle. Mr. Fasanello says a foreign substance has been introduced to our water supply by a company and if they put it in there they should take it out. Mr. Mattson says this has to come from the Sewer & Water Commission. Mr. Brown asks that this be tabled until he can discuss this with friends he has that are involved in the environmental sciences. Mr. Mattson says this will be put back on the agenda and offers to bring in their consultant again for an update. There is further discussion and Mr. Mattson provides past history of previous contamination by Metal Bellows. **Motion Made** by Tom Brown to table this until our first meeting in September at which their consultant should be invited in. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

**PLANNING BD. SITE PLAN DECISION SOUTHRIDGE FARM**

This is read and noted.

**PLANNING BD SPECIAL PERMIT DECISION SOUTHRIDGE FARM**

This is also read and noted.

**PLANNING BD. SITE PLAN DECISION BIRD MACHINE SOLAR FARM**

Read and noted.

**PLANNING BD. SITE PLAN DECISION DEDHAM AUTO MALL**

Read and noted.

**PLANNING BD. SPECIAL PERMIT DECISION SRII VENTURES LLC**

Read and noted.

Mr. Brown asks that a letter be sent to Mrs. Tomaselli explaining that we are aware of the water problem in the area and we are working on resolving it. There is discussion and this will be done.

**H&V POTENTIAL PRODUCTION DISCHARGE INCREASE REQUEST FOR ACCEPTANCE**

Mr. Mattson explains that H&V is proposing to bring in a new process that will double sewer discharge. He has asked Weston and Sampson to review the downstream interceptor to see if it can handle the flow. He has not heard back yet is hopeful he will hear by the end of the week. He does not have a lot of concern because it is about 50' from the meter. However we need to check to see that the flow can be handled as the MWRA is concerned. He says this is informational. Mr. Brown asks the pH is neutralized and Mr. Mattson answers that the flow is often tested with continuous monitoring. He will check their reports.

**WATER AGE ANALYSIS BY WRIGHT PIERCE AND ENGINEERING PROPOSAL**

Mr. Mattson says our consultant believes that our water problems with regard to Renmar Ave., Lincoln Rd. areas are due to age and not enough turn over. They are looking at changing our operational levels to drop it and refill the tank with a mixing system. We may have too much storage. Mr. Fasanello says that is why they have mixers. Mr. Mattson responds yes, but we need to drop the level down in the tanks to mix all of the water. Mr. Brown asks if this would decrease the pressure and if there are any special places to water and/or notify if this is done. Mr. Mattson says the first notification would be the Fire Department. He says the residuals on Renmar Rd are so deficient that the insurance company won't insure them. Mr. Brown asks about a booster and Mr. Mattson responds that they are not willing to put one in. Mr. Mattson says the consultant is proposing additional analysis for \$14,000. Mr. Abbott asks if we have the money to do this and Mr. Mattson responds that he would have to check. There is discussion on the pressure problem in this zone, the age of the street and inaccurate records.

**AL MARHAMA CEMETERY QUESTIONS FOLLOW UP BY WESTON AND SAMPSON**

**Motion Made** by Tom Brown to work with the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board to have an article placed on FATM warrant that would change the zoning bylaws with regard to cemetery use in our aquifer area. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to adjourn. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

*Accepted July 27, 2015*