

**June 9, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, June 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Facility, 1303 Washington St.

Present: John Spillane, Roger Turner, Patrick Fasanello, Ken Fettig and David Sullivan. Also, Rick Mattson, Supt. of Sewer and Water.

### **REORGANIZATION**

Roger Turner nominates John Spillane for Chairman and it is seconded by David Sullivan. There are no other nominations. Vote 5-0-0.

John Spillane nominates Ken Fettig as Clerk and it is seconded by Roger Turner. There are no other nominations. Vote 4-1-0, Fasanello against.

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

**Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to accept the minutes of April 14, 2014 with the correction to the spelling of "APPEALS" on the first page. Second by Roger Turner. Vote 3-0-2, Fasanello and Sullivan abstain.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to accept the minutes of May 5, 2014. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 4-0-1, Sullivan abstains.

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

Mr. Mattson says as he reported in his email the LSP is taking samples for PCB's at the High Plain Street site and marking them for tracking. Mr. Spillane says he would like to know where they came from and Mr. Mattson responds that he is guessing the early 1900's when the tanks were built oil was used foundation basis and the oils contained PCB's. There is discussion. The contractors are completing a punch list at the Farinacci Tank, trees have been planted and the abutters are happy and thankful. Capital Budget was passed at Town Meeting. Maintenance and recoating of the Duffy Tank will start in September. There is an RFQ out for Morningside Dr. and Allston Drive. There was a broken 12" main on Main Street by Goldie's which was a disaster due to all the other utilities and drainage problems in the area. The two connections were made on North Street and he is hopeful there will be an overlay next week. All else is quiet.

### **7:15 APPT. GRACEFFA, 11 HOOVER RD. REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT**

Mr. Graceffa says he is back to the Board because his claim was denied by the Town's insurance company. He would like to express his frustration on the lack of response from the insurance company. He says that they supposedly conducted an investigation into the case however they never asked him any questions or requested any additional information. Mr. Spillane says allowing reimbursement here would set a dangerous precedent and Mr. Graceffa should look at it as an improvement to his home. Mr. Graceffa disagrees and says it now looks like he has a problem and he doesn't. Mr. Fasanello asks how much he is looking for and the answer is \$3800. Mr. Fasanello then asks why it was denied and Mr. Graceffa says his letter states that the Town acted accordingly. There is discussion regarding the testing for fluoride and the amount of water that flowed. Mr. Fasanello asks how far away the water break was and the amount of water loss and Mr. Mattson says the break was about 150' and the water loss was negligible. Mr. Fasanello says he feels Mr. Graceffa jumped the gun. Mr. Fettig says the man's cellar was being flooded and Mr. Mattson says it was not flooded, there was not even enough to pump. Mr. Mattson explains that they follow the same protocol for similar situations and they never even received a call from Mr. Graceffa so they had no knowledge of this. Mr. Graceffa says he discussed it with his neighbors who did call. Mr. Graceffa speaks of the letter he received from the insurance company. The Board never saw this letter and Mr. Mattson believes that it probably went to the Asst. Town Administrator who handles insurance cases. Mr. Mattson offers we could take another swing at the insurance company. Mr. Fasanello says

he is not prepared to make any decision until he sees a copy of the letter that insurance company sent. This will be continued once a copy of the letter is received.

### **7:30 APPT. KEVIN TRAINOR, GEOINSIGHT – DIOXANE**

Christine Binger is also present from GeoInsight. Mr. Trainor gives a brief overview and summary of the events of Metal Bellows and explains they are dealing with residual contaminations. They have added wells #3 and #5 to their testing of dioxane and it resulted in no detection; well #6 is at .2 or .25 ppb which is below the .3 guideline. Mr. Trainor says groundwater recovery and treatment continues as they are still in the Immediate Response Action phase and it is still well below the guideline. . Mr. Fasanello asks if he recommends treating and Mr. Trainor responds that he does not make recommendations to the Town. Mr. Fasanello then says he believes that is more than one way to treat this and asks for costs and asks what Mr. Trainor would say is the best way to treat. Mr. Trainor says he does not have a recommendation, they use ultra violet oxidation. Mr. Fasanello asks what it would cost to treat one well and Mr. Trainor responds that it would depend on the flow rate. Mr. Fasanello then asks for the cost difference of each treatment and Mr. Trainor says he does not know. Mr. Fasanello asks if we used ultra violet then it would rid all of the VOC's and Mr. Trainor says he is not familiar with our system so he does not know. Mr. Fetting feels if all wells are mixed then the level should go down and Mr. Mattson responds that this is not true as dioxane does not dilute well and well #6 pumps as much as the other 5 together. Mr. Fasanello says dilution is no solution anyway, it needs to be removed and we did not put it there. There is discussion. Mr. Trainor says they have been sampling since 2008 at well#6 and it is trending down. Mr. Fasanello asks what is done with the dioxane once removed and Mr. Trainor answers that is destroyed with the ultra violet. Mr. Fasanello then asks what would happen if we turned off well 6 or pumped it to waste and Mr. Mattson answers that it would be catastrophic and a permit would be needed to pump it to the river. Mr. Mattson would like to confirm that 1.4 dioxane is still unregulated and Mr. Trainor says there is no MCL, they are working under guidelines. Mr. Fetting asks if any other Towns have this problem and Mr. Mattson says a few. Mr. Fetting asks if it naturally occurring and the answer is no, it is an industrial stabilizer. Mr. Spillane asks Mr. Mattson to look into what it will take to clean this up.

### **PLANNING BD REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, WALMART SPECIAL PERMIT**

This is read and noted.

### **ZBA REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, 60 SHUFELT RD. SPECIAL PERMIT**

This is read and noted.

### **PLANNING BD. REQUEST FOR COMMENTS – 119 PLEASANT ST. LUETZEN**

This is read and noted

### **REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT – 32 GRANITE ST., TOMASCELLI**

Mr. Mattson explains the situation with this resident. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to credit this account for \$80.00 which is the amount that the plumber charged Ms. Tomascelli. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

### **EASEMENT AND UTILITIES TAKING, HUMMINGBIRD LANE**

The Town Engineer has asked the board to vote to sign and notarize conveyances of easements and utilities for Hummingbird La. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to accept the conveyances of easements and utilities for lots 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 Hummingbird Lane and sign the document. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

### **IRRIGATION REQUEST**

Mr. Man of 19 Atlantic Court is requesting permission to install an irrigation system. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to allow this irrigation system provided all specifications by the Superintendent are met. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

### **ZBA REORGANIZATON RESULTS**

Read and noted

## **SITE PLAN DECISION – ROCKLAND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

Read and noted

## **GEOINSIGHT SAMPLING RESULTS – FORMER METAL BELLOWS**

Read and noted

## **RAO MOBIL 750 MAIN ST.**

Read and noted

## **RAILROADS YOP**

Read and noted

## **BID RECOMMENDATION WELL CLEAN AND REDEVELOP SERVICES**

Read and noted

## **SITE PLAN DECISION SANTOS, 1900 MAIN ST**

Read and noted

## **UPDATED REGULATION FOR DRAINLAYERS**

Mr. Mattson explains that this is a reminder to all drainlayers that effective January 1, 2014 all underground fittings must be lead-free.

## **8:00 PUBLIC RATE HEARING**

The Chairman opens the public hearing. Mr. Fasanello would like to confirm that the inflow and infiltration ratio of 2.744:1 is included in the current fee schedule and it is. He would like to know if any other towns have inquired as to how we came up with this ratio and the answer is no. He notes that administration has proposed a water rate hike of 3.99% and asks why it is not being taken from residuals. Mr. Mattson responds that we are facing some significant improvements over the next 5 years. Mr. Fasanello notes that the Town wanted to take money for their Facilities Plan and he would rather use the retained earnings to stabilize the rate. Mr. Spillane asks to what extent and Mr. Fasanello answers 0%, as he feels the sewer rate is bad enough and there's nothing we can do about it so he would like to see no increase in water. Mr. Spillane does not have a problem with cutting it down a little. There is discussion on how they were previously advised to borrow for larger projects anyway. Mr. Mattson advises that it is dangerous to flat line the rate. Mr. Spillane suggests 2% increase and Mr. Mattson says it is arbitrary and capricious. There is further discussion.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to increase the water rate by 2.5%. Second by Roger Turner. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Moraski suggests that this motion might be challenged because the hearing is not closed. Mr. Spillane says they will vote it again after the hearing is closed. Mr. Moraski then asks if the Board would consider an ascending rate. Mr. Spillane says no. Mr. Mattson said this was discussed before and it appears that it would penalize the larger families and Mr. Fasanello adds that the billing structure also could not handle it. Mr. Mattson says the billing is now changed so that may not be the case anymore. Mr. Moraski says he was thinking on the lines a residential multi-family ascending rate to encourage conservation with 40 B's etc. This would take care of the cost of the extra water needed to supply these multi-families. There is some discussion and the Board opts to keep their rate structure as it is now for the time being. The proposed sewer rate is discussed. Mr. Fasanello says that the infrastructure at Deer Island will require attention soon which we will be paying for through our assessment. Administration is suggesting a 1.57% increase or \$80.21 sewer rate. There does not seem to be any dispute of this rate by the Board. Mr. Spillane then goes through the current fee schedule and asks that anyone who wishes to hold and/or discuss any of the items to speak up. The following were held and discussed: In Town Water Cost Rate was decided to be increased by 2.5% which would be \$49.75 per 1000 cf; Out of Town Water Cost Rate is increased to \$63.68 per 1000 cf; Seasonal Second Meter Water Cost Rate will be \$59.70 per 1000 cf from May 1 to October 1. Service Call during Non-Working Hours is discussed. Mr. Fasanello asks what the normal working hours are and Mr. Mattson responds 7:00 to 3:30. Mr. Fasanello would like to see a floating schedule and Mr. Sullivan says the hours are contractual. Mr. Fasanello says he would like to see a more customer friendly setting. There is further discussion and Mr. Mattson explains that if it is our equipment that is faulty during non-working hours we do not charge for the service call. What he is trying to prevent is nuisance calls. It is agreed that the Non-Working Hours Service Call charge should remain at \$150.00. Septage Facility Discharge Fee is held and discussed. Mr. Fasanello says since we are installing new doors, he would like to see the building extended to allow the bigger trucks to fit. Mr. Mattson agrees to

look into it. After Hours Surcharge for the Septage Facility is held and discussed. Mr. Fasanello then speaks of the facilities hours. He believes that the hours should be changed. There is discussion on this. Mr. Mattson will look into this also. In Town Sewer Cost Rate is held and discussed. It is agreed that due to the MWRA Assessment this rate is out of their control. The sewer rate will increase 1.57% which will be \$80.21 per 1000 cf. The Out of Town Sewer Cost Rate is held and discussed this will now be \$89.25 per 1000 cf. **Motion Made** by Roger Turner to close the Public Rate Hearing. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to include Sewer Extension definition as proposed in the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners Rules and Regulations under Article II Sewer Definitions, as Section A-12, stating it “means the construction of a sewer line together with appurtenant works that is connected to the Town of Walpole sewer system and services two (2) or more buildings or properties”. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0. **Motion Made** Ken Fettig to accept all the fees to the current fee schedule that were held and as discussed during the public hearing with all fees that were not held remaining the same as Fiscal Year 2014. These new fees will go into effect July 1, 2014 for Fiscal Year 2015. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0

### **YEARLY OPERATIONAL PLAN NSTAR**

This is read and noted.

### **VILLAGE FAIR APPROVAL**

Read and noted.

### **YEARLY OPERATIONAL PLAN COMMUTER RAIL**

Read and noted. Mr. Fasanello questions the fact that we are paying to cross easements and would like to know if the MBTA pays taxes and Mr. Mattson will find out.

### **8:45 APPT MIKE BAUMANN, H&V POTENTIAL EXPANSION PROJECT**

Mr. Baumann says he is Operations Manager and he has brought along Bob Cook who is the controller. They are here seeking support and advice as they consider their options for expansion. He gives the background of the company and tells of their other plants across the country. They are considering a major expansion. They feel the disadvantage to using this plant is the cost for their utilities. They figure a 3 to 5 year start up curve and expect there will be 35 to 40 new jobs. Also their discharge will increase by approximately 50% which puts them at a disadvantage. They are here tonight for support in receiving some type of rate relief. Mr. Fettig asks about the current discharge and there is discussion. Mr. Fasanello says the problem is that we have no control in reducing H&V's rate unless they were to increase the rate of the residents. Mr. Baumann says they are not looking for relief at the expense of other, they would like the Board to steer them in the right direction to attempt to achieve some relief. They are told that they would probably need to start with the MWRA. Mr. Fasanello suggests talking to their advisory board. Mr. Mattson suggests doing whatever they can to assist this business because if they were to cease operation in Town we will lose \$1/2 million and he is not sure our sewer assessment would go down proportionately. There is discussion how the MWRA formula calculates the assessment. Mr. Turner says he is excited to hear about the expansion. Mr. Spillane says they need to talk to the MWRA. Mr. Baumann asks for guidance in this direction. He is told that Joe Favalaro of the MWRA will tell them what they can do. Mr.

Moraski asks if they have met with EDC and Mr. Baumann says yes. Mr. Mattson offers them contact information for those at the MWRA.

### **OLMSTED ESTATES**

Mr. Glossa and Mr. Viano are present for this discussion. Mr. Glossa presents a potential 11 lot subdivision via three combined lots. He is proposing sewer along the center line to Fisher St. with 2 abutters on Fisher St. that will be able to connect with a jet system and they will leave a 2" along the back of 3 lots on Fisher St. for them to connect if they wish. He says Fisher Street is probably the worst area in Town needing sewer. Mr. Mattson asks why he is proposing to cut through property rather than in the roadway and Mr. Glossa responds that it is cost. Mr. Viano adds that Fisher Street drops in this area and the pipe would be out of the ground. The water for this subdivision is discussed. Mr. Spillane asks if this would be an 8" line into the subdivision and Mr. Glossa says yes. Mr. Fasanello then asks if it is looping and

wishes to confirm this will not be an easement for looping but a real watermain. Mr. Viano says yes. Mr. Glossa says they have already committed to bringing the watermain from Fisher St. to North Street, however the location may change. Mr. Glossa says they are looking tonight for the Boards blessing of the sewer main and the extension of the watermain . Mr. Viano says he has spoken to at least 5 of the residents on Fisher Street who are supporting this concept due to their septic situations. There is some discussion as to whether there would be two pressure zones involved. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to send a letter to the Planning Board stating that this Board concurs with the comments of the Town Engineer and telling that they must submit a local sewer extension permit application, have it approved by this Board and pay inflow and infiltration fees in full prior to approval by this Board. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0.

#### **WALDEN DRIVE SEWER MAIN**

Mr. Viano has submitted a letter and plan to the Sewer & Water Commission requesting approval to tie into the Walden Drive sewer main for the purpose of servicing his abutting property. The Board is told that the Town Engineer has not had the opportunity to review this plan yet. There is some discussion however Mr. Glossa and Mr. Viano says this is an open face subdivision that is a work in progress. No decisions are made with regard to this request at this time.

#### **REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF INTEREST CHARGES, MCLEOD, 89 ENDEAN DR**

Mr. McLeod has written a letter to the Sewer & Water Commission stating that he had not received 3 of his previous bills and questions the fact that they were ever mailed or were forwarded to the previous owner. The Water Department had records showing that the previous owner had paid his final bill and the bills in question were sent to the service address and not returned as undeliverable. Mr. McLeod is asking that interest charges he incurred be removed from his account. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to abate the interest charges in the amount of \$40.98 as requested by the homeowner. Second by Ken Fettig, Vote 5-0-0.

Mr. Fasanello would like to talk about the Town Administrator leaving. He feels since he is our agent we pay upwards of \$1 million that we should have a say in who is hired to replace him. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting that the Sewer & Water Commission be allowed to provide input in the selection of a new Town Administrator. There is no second. Mr. Fasanello says he would like his request to be on record and he is told that it is.

Mr. Spillane speaks of Sharon Country Day Camp and the fact that it is going up for sale and it is in our aquifer. He says administration is getting an appraisal which was supposed to be in today. There is discussion on how it could be taken by eminent domain but they would still have to pay fair market value. At this point they will wait for the value and see what the sellers are asking.

Mr. Fasanello again asks if anyone would be interested in pursuing a request to be able to provide input in the selection of a new Town Administrator. Mr. Moraski suggests that the Board could ask to be included in the selection committee. None of the other Commissioners express an interest.

**Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to adjourn. Second by Roger Turner. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:05.

*Accepted June 23,2014*