

**March 24, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, March 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Facility, 1303 Washington Street.

Present: Roger Turner, Patrick Fasanello, James Taylor, John Spillane, and Ken Fettig. Also, Rick Mattson, Supt. of Sewer and Water, and Bob O'Brien, DPW Director.

All Abatement submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

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

Mr. Mattson reports that they repaired their seventh water main which was on Betty Road and was approximately 65' from the other break. He believes it is simply due to underground conditions. Also, on Tuesday his crew repaired a broken drain at the head of the trench on North Street. The drain line was installed by the Highway Dept. and our crew clipped the pipe during our North St. project which created a soft spot and the trench was acting as a conduit, so it has been fixed and it is hopeful this will stabilize things. With favorable weather conditions he is thinking they can complete the job by the third week of April. Mr. Mattson then tells that they continue to flush Edgewood, Field and Morningside. Capital Budget and FinCom has voted favorable action a SATM for funding this project and he expects that there will not be an issue. At a later date he would like to discuss the concept of using PVC for Field Dr. and Edgewood Ave. as experimental as it would be cheaper and you won't get oxidized iron. There is some minor discussion on this. Mr. Mattson says Mine Brook #3 has been relined and they are waiting for the reconditioned pump. Also the 5 year (3 year) Sanitary Survey by DEP is scheduled for March 31<sup>st</sup>. There is a presentation to be given on April 2 in Worcester with Wright-Pierce and himself with regard to the siting and design issues of the new water tank. He and Economic Developer, Stephanie, met with Hollingsworth and Vose. He says the mill is not doing well however they have an opportunity to bring in a new operation which will increase their water use and sewer discharge. They have issue with the sewer discharge as 15% of our sewer discharge is from them. Mr. Fasanello says it is not good discharge and Mr. Mattson responds that it is treated. He tells that they will be approaching the Board in the near future to seek some rate relief on the sewer charges. Mr. Fasanello says they should be talking to the MWRA, not us and Mr. Mattson says we are the rate setters. Mr. Fasanello says if we give them a rate differential then all others on our system will be subsidizing them. Mr. Mattson adds if they leave town then the ratepayers charges will skyrocket. Mr. Fasanello responds that they then would not be discharging the 15% and Mr. Mattson says the assessment would not go down. Mr. Fasanello says he will find out at the next meeting. Mr. Mattson says he just wanted to give the Board a "heads up" on what H&V might be looking for in the future. Mr. Fasanello then asks about the meeting he was planning to attend that was cancelled with the Town's reps regarding the Water Management Act as he had a lot of questions and wonders if it has been rescheduled. Mr. Mattson responds that is not scheduled at this time but will let him know when.

**Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to accept the minutes of March 10, 2014. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

### **PLANNING BOARD AND BOA REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, NASSAR, 1449 MAIN ST**

Mr. Mattson says it appears that they are intending to expand their showroom. Mr. Fasanello expresses concern over de-icing chemicals. There is discussion on drains in the parking lot. This is considered to be read and noted.

### **PLANNING BOARD REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, SANTOS, 1900 MAIN ST.**

Mr. Turner explains the status of the project and Mr. Spillane says it appears to be a conservation issue. Mr. Fasanello asks if there are monitor wells in the area and the answer is no. There is discussion about Cedar Swamp and whether it is a feeder to the Washington Wells. Mr. Mattson says it is a secondary recharge. Mr. Fasanello would like it in the records that he has expressed concern over how this could affect our wells.

### **MODIFICATION DECISION FOR HIGH OAKS IV**

Mr. Mattson explains that this is the modifications that the Planning Board has voted for High Oaks IV. There is discussion and it is determined that we own their pump station, they get another lot and the town gets \$200,000. There is no action taken.

### **PHASE V PMR FOR BAKER HUGHES**

Mr. Mattson explains that this is the Bird Machine Remedial Report which is standard. Mr. Spillane asks if there is any activity going on at this site and Mr. Mattson responds there is none that he is aware of.

Mr. Fasanello asks about the status of the dioxane and Mr. Mattson says it is stable at .9 parts and suggests having representatives from Parker Hannifin into one of our meetings. The Board agrees.

### **NSTAR YEARLY OPERATION PLAN NOTICE**

This is read and noted.

### **NATIONAL GRID YEARLY OPERATIONAL PLAN NOTICE**

This is also read and noted.

### **IMMEDIATE RESPONSE ACTION 654-656 NORTH ST.**

Mr. Mattson explains that this is the Buttimer property that Mr. Viano purchased. It appears that the barn site had discharge of oil into the ground that needs remediation. No action is taken.

### **NSTAR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT NOTICE**

This is read and noted.

### **7:30 APPT. OLD POST ROAD TANK ABUTTERS**

Abutters present for this meeting are Rita Krueger, 27 Alton St; John O'Brien, 33 Alton St; Lori and Bernard Dullea, 417 Old Post Rd and Norman "Chip" Eibye, 62 Highland St. Mr. Spillane explains that the plans for the tank are up in the air due to the need for the antennas that are on the tank. Mr. Mattson gives the background of the tank. He says it was constructed in 1970-71 and it has a ½ mg capacity which services a very small pressure zone from Squire Ct., to Neal St., to Baker St. (aka Walpole Heights). The tank was inspected 3 years ago and it was recommended to be rehabilitated in the next 4 to 5 years as the metal is starting to decay. There are a few options for this, the first is to strip and recoat, install a mixing system and put it back in service. The estimated cost for this is \$800,000 and there would still be a pressure deficiency. The second option is to leave the tank, rehabilitate it with a mixing system and install a booster pump to address the pressure problem. This would cost \$1.5 to \$1.6 million. The third option is to remove this tank and construct another and go higher (135') to acquire the pressure naturally. The current tank is 80'. The most logical place for this tank is where the old one is because the infrastructure is already there. The problem with this is the old one has to come down which means we would lose this storage and there is a question of what to do about the communication antennas in the interim or they could site the new tank back further. The cost for this option is approximately \$2.65million. The article (Article 15 SATM) has been brought to Capital Budget Committee who voted favorable action and Finance Committee who voted recommendation of Town Meeting. Mr. Mattson says because there is a need for more answers regarding what to do about the communications the project is in a state of flux. He says the intent of the meeting tonight is to make the people aware that something is going to happen; it is far from a done deal. Mr. Spillane adds that they had discussed the possibility of putting a tank at the High Plain Street site. There is discussion on how this property is 28' lower so the tank would have to be higher. There is then discussion on how this project would be borrowed and the cost would be applied to the rate. Mr. Fasanello explains how the Sewer & Water Commission is entrepreneurial with Herb Chambers, who paid \$1.2 m to get Walpole water, Amerisuites hotel was looking for our water and we can charge out of town users a special entrance fee. Discussion is held and Ms. Krueger says she would like to know if the Town is going to focus on this area for all tanks as this will affect whether or not to say in the area. She is told that it is possible, but not in the next 5 years. Mr. Fettig asks her how her water pressure is and she responds that she has lived there since 1978 and it is horrible but that is not an issue to her. She feels this plan showed up overnight. Mr. O'Brien has questions regarding the budgetary process and Mr. Mattson explains the steps of funding a project. The problem is what happens to the antennas and telecommunications. Water pressure in other areas of town are discussed. Ms. Krueger asks why not just take the tank down and Mr. Mattson explains that there would then be no fire protection storage. She then asks why not use the Duffy tank and she is told because this is a different zone. Mr. O'Brien asks if the town has looked at other sites and Mr. Fasanello explains that these are the highest spots in Walpole and it would be cost prohibitive to look elsewhere. Mr. O'Brien again asks if all sites have been looked at appropriately. It is again explained to Mr. O'Brien that this is the most logical site. Ms. Krueger asks for clarification on a new tank and if it would have a different visual and if more trees would come down. Mr. O'Brien asks for a map of all town owned property and he is told we have this however it is not topographical nor with elevations. Mr. Spillane would like to say that this is all still up in the air. Ms. Krueger asks to be kept in the loop. Mr. O'Brien asks what the next step would be and he is told unless this Board comes up with

something it will be the recommendation of Town Meeting. Mr. Fasanello explains that this Board was elected to make sure there is enough water supply for the Town of Walpole and Ms. Krueger says and this is depreciating her property value. Trees in the area are discussed. Mr. Spillane says they will keep the abutters informed of any decisions that are made with this. There is discussion and abutters are told that usually an article fails if it is recommendation of Town Meeting because there are so many unanswered questions. Also, because it is a borrowing article it requires a 2/3 majority vote. There is discussion on what would be required to accommodate the antennas if the tank were to be taken down. Mr. Eibye wonders if the Sewer & Water commission should be held hostage for the chief's towns and Mr. Mattson says no. Mr. Fasanello says he has noticed a new antenna and Mr. Mattson says this is ours. Mr. Fasanello asks about a standalone town and he is told that would cost \$125,000. Mr. Fettig asks where this would go and Mr. Mattson says somewhere in front of the tank. There is discussion on whether a taller tank would interfere with radio activity. Mr. Fasanello would like a cost estimate to put the tank at the High Plain Street site. Design of the tank is discussed. The abutters are again told that they will be kept informed.

#### **TOWN ENGINEER'S COMMENTS ON BARBERRY HOMES, MOOSEHILL ROAD 40B**

There is discussion as to where this construction will take place. There is then discussion on how this project will be sewerred as the applicant has proposed a pump station where gravity is a possibility. Mr. Mattson says there needs to be a ruling on the application. Mr. Fasanello confirms that they will need a sewer extension permit from this Board and Mr. Mattson again says it depends on the ruling. Mr. Mattson says they are able to go gravity through Siemen's property to Hale Road. Mr. Mattson says the applicant has requested waivers to the fees for the subsidized units so it depends on the MA Housing ruling. There is discussion and there is no action taken.

#### **FY 15 SEWER AND WATER RATE WORKSHEETS**

Mr. Mattson explains that these are the preliminary rate worksheets for fiscal year 2015 and he suggests that the Board consider a date for the rate hearing for one of the meetings in June.

#### **DEDICATION OF WATER LINE, ROUTE 109 (COUNTY ST.)**

This main was installed in County St. and extended up to the Oakwood Estates Subdivision. The Town Engineer is asks that the Sewer & Water commission vote its acceptance so it can become a town-owned water main. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to accept the water main that was installed in County St and extended up to the Oakwood Estates as recommended by the Town Engineer. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

#### **DEP NOTICE OF NON COMPLIANCE AND RETURN TO COMPLIANCE**

Mr. Mattson explains that this is the MCL that was exceeded in October 2013. This is read and noted.

Mr. Fasanello says he would like to have discussion with Algonquin Gas regarding their pipelines through the Town. He feels they can pump with pigs near our aquifers and he would like to know when they were last checked. Mr. Mattson says he believes that they are continuously monitored. Mr. Fasanello says he would like to find out and asks that a note be sent. He would like this also done with the Shell line.

Mr. Mattson says it is the time of year that we decide outdoor water restrictions. He would like to recommend sticking with the mandatory odd/even restrictions and it would run from May 5, 2015 through October 6, 2015 with no outside watering between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to institute the Water Management Policy as recommended by Superintendent Mattson. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

**Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to adjourn. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

*Accepted April 14, 2014*