

January 23, 2012

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, January 23, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington St.

Present: James Taylor, Roger Turner, Kevin Muti, Patrick Fasanello and Ken Fettig. 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 James Taylor to accept the minutes of January 9, 2012. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 4-0-1, Fasanello abstained.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STATUS REPORT

Mr. Mattson says the strip towers will be on site next Monday and installed by Friday. They are planning to take the plant out of service to reconfigure. They are going to pull the screens and leave them off as the plant was built around the pumps and they cannot get the screens out. He expects this project will be done within a week. Mr. Muti asks if there would be any residual effect and the answer is no. Mr. Mattson then says the average demand this past year was 2.1 mgd, which is coming down and the revenues are stable. Mr. Mattson then speaks of the Notice of Non Compliance from the DEP for the Delaney WTP that is in tonight's package. He was expecting this and has spoken to the LSP that did the RAO and AUL who has contacted the DEP. Apparently a lot of this was done under the old standards where there was no guidance or specific forms. Our options now are either go through the whole thing again or eliminate the AUL which removes restrictions at the plant. He says there are two pieces of contamination on site with diesel, one is under a slab covered with impervious peat and the other is under the building. The AUL put limitations on the property where the Town cannot sell the property for residential purposes. If the AUL is removed we can be rid of the NON and since there would be no intentions of selling the property he feel this is the best route to take. Mr. Fasanello would like to confirm that the contamination is sealed and the answer is yes. Mr. Mattson says he would have AECOM file the appropriate documents since the original LSP, Mr. DeNatalie, works for this company.

Motion Made by Ken Fettig to hire Mr. DeNatalie as recommended by the Superintendent to file the appropriate documents to remove the AUL. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Mattson then reports that Capital Budget will meet with water and sewer on January 31 at 7:30. His biggest item is the replacement of the membranes at the Willis. Mr. Fasanello asks how long they have been in place and the answer is 8 years. He says we have guaranteed pricing if done before July 13, 2012 at \$690,000 and after that it would be \$1,700,000. Therefore he feels it makes sense to do this now because it is going to have to be done anyhow. He feels it should come from retained earnings. There is some discussion. Mr. Mattson then says he has some small items on Capital Budget such as GPS item, software and tough books. Mr. Fettig asks what the overall amount would be and Mr. Mattson answers approximately \$740,000. Mr. Fettig asks about financing and Mr. Mattson says there is \$1.9 million in retained earnings so it only makes sense to take it from there. Mr. Fettig asks if we will get money back for lack of performance and Mr. Mattson answers that the amount is prorated based on 8 years. Mr. Fettig then asks if we should keep the old ones for standby and Mr. Mattson says no as they need to stored wet in glycol and would be space intensive. There is further discussion on being the second drinking water plant to use this method and the risk taken.

7:15 DAN MERRIKIN RE: WALPOLE PARK SOUTH PUMP STATION

Donnell Murphy is also present for this discussion. Mr. Merrikin says Mr. Murphy is attempting to wrap things up at this sit and they always anticipated that the sewer pump station would be maintained by the Town. Mr. Fasanello asks why they thought this and Mr. Merrikin responds it is based on the historical documentation. He says if this is true he would like to know what the Board would want to prepare for this. The station has been inspected by Hayes Pump and indicated that it is in good condition with a couple of improvements recommended of which Mr. Murphy will be doing such as the replacement of the pump's check valve. There is discussion of the exact location of the station and this is reviewed using the site plan. Mr. Turner asks if it has a backup generator and Mr. Murphy answers no. Mr. Merrikin adds that the capacity with the wet well is sufficient during a tropical or snow storm as there would not be a lot of production in this case because there would be no power. There is discussion on other generators at this site and Mr. Murphy says there is one that Sprint has and a small one for a freezer of a bakery. Mr. Merrikin says it makes sense to take the pump station during street acceptance. Mr. Turner asks about the drainage and Mr. Merrikin says it is within the road. There is discussion on the sewer line being in the street and the pump station within the easement. Mr. Turner asks if our minutes reflect a vote to take the pump station and no one has the answer and it is determined that it would have to be researched. Mr. Fettig asks how the taking of the road stands and Mr. Merrikin says they are working with the Planning Board and given the age of the road they were asked to grind and repave the road which will be done in April. Mr. Fasanello asks if it is decided to take the pump station would they also receive the land around it and the answer is no, there would be an easement as there is also a retention basin which will be maintained by Mr. Murphy. Mr. Turner asks if the retention basin is for the whole site and Mr. Merrikin says no, this one receives runoff from the street. Mr. Fasanello says this runoff has salt and a lot of other things that he does not want in our groundwater there is then discussion on whether they are environmental catch basins and the fact that they were designed in 1986. Mr. Fasanello expresses concern of the salt, oil, transmission fluid, etc. getting into the retention basin. Mr. Merrikin says the catch basins have the ability to trap things by the hoods. Discussion is had regarding infiltration in the basin and how it works. Mr. Fasanello says there was a pollution problem in wells from chemicals. Mr. Merrikin asks what chemicals. Mr. Fasanello asks what is to prevent pollutants from getting into our water from the detention basin. Mr. Fettig asks what difference this is than any other street and Mr. Fasanello responds that we try not to add to the problem. Mr. Merrikin says the Town of Walpole is the biggest polluter to itself and Mr. Fasanello responds that we should not aggravate the situation. Mr. Fasanello would like to see the documents on how all of this took place. Mr. Fettig asks where it stands at this time and Mr. Merrikin says the Planning Board would like to know what this Board plans to do. Mr. Fasanello says there will not be a decision tonight. Mr. Muti asks if this Board does not take the sewer pump if it would impact their street acceptance plans and the answer is no, the Town can accept the street with or without the pump station and vice versa. Mr. Taylor asks if we take the station who would be responsible for repairs and the answer is the Town. Mr. Fasanello says he would like to see us get rid of pump stations. There is discussion on the type of station and Mr. Mattson says Walpole Park South has the same as the Chandler Ave station which is a very basic Gorman Rupp. His only concern would be the fact that it is 26 years old. We rehabilitate ours every 12 years. Parts are readily available however he strongly suggests that the pumps be replaced if the Town takes the station given the age of them. Mr. Fettig feels we would be better off with the control as the Town has experience. Mr. Mattson disagrees with this statement as they are self-automated. There is then discussion on the cost to replace the pumps and it is estimated at about \$4000 per pump. It is asked what the average operating cost is and Mr. Murphy responds that it is \$58 - \$60 per month. Mr. Fasanello says he would like to see power back up and Mr. Mattson speaks of an auto

starter in lieu of a full generator. Mr. Gustafson is going to look into information on this. Mr. Muti asks that research be done on this topic and provided to the Board for the next meeting so that they have all the information before them. This will be done.

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION – 399 STONE ST

There is discussion regarding the letter sent from the homeowner Mr. Travers. It appears that there was a leak that has been corrected. Mr. Fettig gives some background on Mr. Travers' situation. There is discussion and records are reviewed. It is decided that all of the water used must be paid for as per the rules and regulations of the Board and normal sewer usage will be determined and due and the rest of the sewer will be abated.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, CONCOM NOI, 400 SOUTH ST., PJ HAYES

Mr. Mattson explains that the plan is to reconfigure and landscape the entrance of this site. After discussion and review the Board has no further comment.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, CONCOM NOI 153 CLEAR POND DR.

Mr. Turner gives the history of this manmade pond in Swan Pond. There is a statement in the Integrated Management Plan submitted by the applicant that indicates it is in the Charles River Basin which the Board does not believe to be true. Mr. Turner expresses concern over potential herbicide used running off into the Neponset River. There is further discussion. **Motion Made** by Roger Turner to send a letter stating that this Board has concern anytime herbicides enter the ground. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP INVITATION

There is discussion as to what the purpose of the workshop is and the Chairman asks if any Board member plan to attend or would like to represent the rest of the Board. Mr. Taylor says he will be available to go if he is reminded. None of the other Commissioners are able to attend at this time.

FY 13 WATER AND SEWER RATE WORKSHEET

Mr. Mattson says the sewer rate appears to be stable as our assessment is down. There is some discussion and then Mr. Mattson talks of the water rate. He says this a 25% increase and the \$690,000 capital budget expense is not showing here. He indicates that the current retained earnings is at \$1.9 million so he is recommending we use retained earnings for this capital budget expense and after the other smaller items retained earnings would be at about \$1 million. He then would recommend using \$250,000 to stabilize the rate and be about a 3% increase. **Motion Made** by James Taylor to apply \$250,000 of retained earnings towards the rate. Second by Kevin Muti. Vote 5-0-0. The Board would like to see the new worksheets before actually accepting the rates and they will be brought to the next meeting.

Mr. Fasanello gives an overview of the MWRA Advisory Board meeting that he and DPW Director, Bob O'Brien attended in Chelsea last week. He says he also spoke with Fred Lasky regarding our septage facility. He told him that the reason no one comes to our site is because the loads are checked and tested. He adds that Canton's treatment costs are higher because the loads are not checked. Mr. Fettig asks if we can sue. Mr. Fasanello says he told Joe Favolaro that we are thinking of not paying our assessment and he suggested not doing this as they would take away our State aid.

Fluoride is discussed and Mr. Fasanello says the State is staying at 0.9 although they know about the 0.7, they have chosen to wait until it is in black and white before changing their numbers.

Trihalomethanes are also discussed and Mr. Fasanello says the State would like to see them below 10. Mr. Mattson says that would be impossible for groundwater. He says we changed from chlorines to chloramines to bring them down. Mr. Fasanello asks what else can be done and Mr. Mattson answers ozone which is very expensive. Mr. Fasanello would like to see them brought down.

Motion Made by Roger Turner to adjourn. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.