

March 12, 2012

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, March 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Facility, 1303 Washington Street.

Present: Kevin Muti, James Taylor, Roger Turner, Patrick Fasanello and Ken Fettig. Also Rick Mattson, Supt. of Sewer and Water.

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

Motion Made by Patrick Fasanello to accept the minutes of February 13, 2012. Second by James Taylor. Vote 4-0-1, Fettig abstained.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STATUS REPORT

Mr. Mattson reports that they are wrapping up the commercial/industrial meter system program. Things were very favorable and moved fast. There are about 25 residential meters that are not cooperating and he plans to deal with them at the end of the program.

The annual statistical report has been submitted for 2011. We are at 5.5% unaccounted for water which Mr. Mattson believes is due mostly to the meter replacements. We are at 64.5 gallons per capita per day.

Mr. Mattson reports that NStar has submitted their operational plan and upon review it was noticed that there were a couple of wells that were not on their plan. He has plotted them and will notify NStar. There is discussion on what type of treatment is used in the various zones. Mr. Fasanello wonders if we should hire someone to review this and Mr. Mattson says that would cost about \$5000. Mr. Fasanello then says he would like one of their representatives to come in and speak to the Board of their plans and methods, and to answer any questions the Board might have. Mr. Turner says the Conservation Commission will be reviewing this also as it is in the wetlands and Mr. Mattson adds that ConCom does an extensive review. Comment period ends April 6 and this Board is not meeting until April 9 so Mr. Fasanello suggests that this Commission ask for an extension to allow time for their rep to appear before the Board prior to making our comments. This will be done. Mr. Mattson says in the meantime he will move forward with his plan to notify them of the missing wells.

PLIMPTONVILLE CROSSING

The Commission reviews all information and discusses the site plan and comments made by the Town Engineer. There is concern expressed over the fact that the water line is not being looped. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to concur with the comments made by the Town Engineer. Additionally, the Sewer & Water Commission asks that a standard utility easement at the end of the shown cul de sac to the terminus of the applicant's property in the direction of Allston Drive be required. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION – 162 PINE STREET

It is explained that Ms. Johnson had a leaking toilet and she is asking that her bill be adjusted for this. There is discussion and the Board agrees that they must remain consistent with their policy which is that water must be paid for whether used or wasted. **Motion Made** by James Taylor that the Sewer & Water Commission adhere to their regulations and deny the request for an adjustment to the water bill at 162 Pine Street which was caused by a leaking toilet. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS – SOUTHRIDGE FARM, 400 SOUTH ST.

There is discussion on this plan and the fact that it is within the WRPOD. **Motion Made** by Roger Turner to send a letter to the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Appeals and Town Engineer stating that this Board concurs with the comments of the Town Engineer. The correspondence should also state that the Sewer & Water Commission has concerns related to the potential use, storage and/or sale of pesticides, fertilizer or any other chemicals. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS 57 WASHINGTON STREET

The location of this address is discussed. Mr. Turner says it is where the old clock tower is and Mr. Mattson says then the address must be 57 Chestnut St. It is then determined that this plan is just information for the Board and no comments are necessary.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS 576 COMMON STREET

The Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners reviewed all available information relative to this subject. It is asked that a letter be sent the various boards stating that or the safety of the Town this Board requires a conventional water system which would include a 6" water main with a hydrant and 2 services tapped into the 6" main as typically required. This will be done.

PLANNING BOARD NOTIFICATION PLANNING BOARD ZONING ARTICLES

Mr. Fasanello says there appears to be a lot of zoning changes being made. Mr. Fettig adds that taking property out of RB zoned and making it park/recreation will cause the Town to lose revenue. There are no comments made to be forwarded for the hearing.

LETTER OF THANKS, ELLIS FIELD WATER HOOK UP

This letter is read and noted.

RECOMMENDED BID REJECTION – FIRE SPRINKLER PIPING DELANEY WTP

Mr. Mattson says a lot of the cost is the ceiling removal for access. He spoke to our building maintenance and they feel their men can do it. He therefore recommends a rebid and also feels more bids would be received by doing this. Mr. Fettig asks who would put the ceiling back and Mr. Mattson answers that it would be the same people who took it down. The Commission agrees with the rebid.

CHARGES FOR SEWER BLOCKAGE/OVERFLOW, DAYLILY LA @ CUL DE SAC

Mr. Mattson explains that kids had slid off the casting of the manhole in an easement and filled it with rocks and debris. This was within an easement of an earthen slope and the sewer was overflowing. The entire thing turned into a nightmare and became quite costly. The cause was that it was not cemented down as it should have been. He therefore sent the charges to the developer and they have been paid in full.

COLONIAL WATER COMPANY REQUEST FOR DOVER INTERCONNECTION

Mr. Fasanello likes this idea and says we could charge a \$20,000 retainer each year and stipulate we will supply water in an emergency at the going rate. There is discussion. Mr. Mattson is opposed based on the fact that it is a private water company and wonders why they never took the opportunity of an interconnection with the Town of Norfolk when approached as this would benefit the Town much more. He says if they lose Winter Street it is a one direction feed and there would be much of this area and West Walpole that would have no water. Mr. Fasanello says he never said he wanted nothing to do with Norfolk. Mr. Fasanello says he would like to get additional information from Colonial such as how they plan to do this. Mr. Muti wonders what their interpretation of emergency basis is. He needs to know what they constitute as an emergency. After further discussion on it being a private water company that is registered a public water supply, the Board feels that they should come to their meeting of April 23rd to hear what they have to say. Mr. Mattson will contact them.

MAY 2012 SATM WARRANT

Mr. Mattson says we have 3 articles, 7 and 8 are the annual enterprise articles. Article 9 is regarding the use of retained earnings to stabilize the rate. FinCom is asking to meet with the Commission on April 5 at 7:30 as they are concerned that of using these retained earnings should infrastructure issues come up. They would rather see us borrow \$730,000 and save the retained earnings for a “rainy day”. Also the FinCom would like to see a depreciation fund built into the rate. Mr. Mattson suggests having the Finance Director come to our meeting of the 26th before going to the FinCom. The Board thinks this is a good idea and Mr. Mattson will invite him.

WATER TANK OLD POST RD./HIGH PLAIN ST/TIME EXTENSION BY PLANNING BD.

This is a time extension for the tank hearing to be held by the Planning Board. Mr. Mattson asks if the Board has an inkling of what they would like to do with the tank. Mr. Fasanella says he attended the site visit and Old Post Road appears to be a sloped site where the erosion can be seen and the water moves through a swale of three yards. He is concerned of putting another tank there. He is thinking of taking the 3 tanks at High Plain Street down and placing it there. Mr. Fettig asks about putting in a drain. Mr. Mattson says his impression is that runoff is not the problem but rather groundwater is the problem. Mr. Fasanella says he is not in favor of putting all their eggs in one basket. Mr. Mattson says both sites have the necessary piping. Mr. Muti wonders if High Plain Street has enough land and Mr. Mattson responds that High Plain Street would be difficult but not impossible. Mr. Muti asks about there being a buffer zone and Mr. Mattson says yes but not during construction. The engineer will come to the meeting on March 26th to address any concerns the public or Board might have.

Mr. Taylor says he previously brought up accounts that are in arrears and wants to know what the plan is to address this. It is explained that the Finance Director can only lien once a year by state statute. Mr. Taylor says he would like the Board to send out letters of those in arrears giving them 90 days to pay or the water will be shut off as there is a lot of money outstanding. It is explained that the Sewer & Water Commission does not lose out as this money comes from the taxes before any money goes towards the taxes and it is a 14% interest rate. Mr. Fettig says we are better off letting it go to lien as it is like the homeowner taking a high interest loan from the Town. Mr. Fasanella says he would like to see letters go out as the Town gets stuck waiting for their money. There is discussion and it is determined that anyone owing over \$1000 as of March 1, 2012 should get a letter. **Motion Made** by James Taylor to send a letter to all customers who show past due accounts of \$1000 or more stating that they have 90 days to become current or the water may be shut off. Second by Patrick Fasanella. Vote 3-1-1, Fettig against, Turner abstained.

Motion Made by Kevin Muti to adjourn. Second by Patrick Fasanella. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Accepted March 26, 2012