

September 10, 2012

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, September 10, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Facility, 1303 Washington St.

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

Motion Made by James Taylor to accept the minutes of August 27, 2012 with the corrections discussed made by Mr. Fasanello. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 4-0-0.

7:02 Mr. Fetting arrived.

Mr. Taylor as clerk says he has reviewed the abatements and is satisfied with them. All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed, however Mr. Turner and Mr. Fetting are in agreement that the chairman should be the first to sign these documents and they will not sign them in the future unless this is the procedure.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STATUS REPORT

Mr. Mattson says there is not a lot to report. There was another broken water main where 300,000 gallons of water was lost in 45 minutes. This occurred on Route 1A and caused the shut down of the north bound lane. A 9 foot section of pipe burst and was a very expensive leak. Mr. Taylor says he was at this break and there is a problem with the crane that is being used. Although it is only 2 years old it is not working properly. Mr. Mattson says it is going to be fixed tomorrow. Mr. Fetting suggests going back to the manufacturer and Mr. Mattson says it is going in tomorrow. Mr. Taylor says it is a good and useful piece of equipment but needs to be working properly. It is asked that this remain on the agenda so the Board can find out what the status is.

PLANNING BD AND CONCOM REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, 555 BOSTON PROV. HWY

It is explained that there is a request for comments for a land disturbance permit at this site for which there are comments from the Town Engineer, and a request for comments for site plan approval. The Town Engineer has not yet had the opportunity to review the site plan and Planning will be hearing it before our next meeting. **Motion Made** by Kevin Muti to send a letter to both Conservation and Planning stating that we concur with the comments of the Town Engineer regarding the Land Disturbance Permit. Also, this Board will withhold comment regarding site plan until the Town Engineer has had the opportunity to review the plans. Therefore, this Commission would like to reserve the right to comment at a later date. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 4-1-0, Taylor against.

400 OLD POST ROAD REVISED PLANS, PLANNING BD REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Rick Merrikin is here for this discussion. He has brought plans with him and explains in addition to the two houses currently being built there is a subdivision which will have a hydrant in the front and the back and the sewer will go out to Old Post Road. Mr. Fasanello asks about concern expressed over a swale and Mr. Merrikin says there is a rip rap swale that goes across Route 1 and the Town Engineer wanted to insure that there was no additional water going into it and there is not. Mr. Fasanello speaks of an easement that he would like for the future and Mr. Merrikin agrees to it. **Motion Made** by Ken Fetting to send a letter to the Planning Board stating that this Board concurs with the comments of the

Town Engineer and additionally has asked for a utility easement from the end of the street to the Big Y property, which Mr. Merrikin has agreed to provide. Second by Kevin Muti. Vote 5-0-0.

12 YORK CIRCLE, ALARIE IRRIGATION REQUEST

Motion Made by Kevin Muti to approve this request for an irrigation system conditional on it meeting all of the requirements of the Superintendent. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING RESULTS – GEOINSIGHT

Mr. Fasanello expresses concern over the dioxane. Mr. Muti says it is still high. Mr. Fasanello says he has done research and it is not a nice thing and the Superintendent was supposed to look into methods to remove it. Mr. Mattson says he did that, there are two ways; ultra violet and evaporation. Including Walpole there are 3 communities that are showing this in their water (Acton and Burlington) and Wright Pierce is currently piloting for iron and manganese removal in Acton and plans to include space in the design for removal of this also. Burlington has abandoned their well. Mr. Fasanello says this is a solvent for trichloroethene and the MCL is 0.00003 ppb. Mr. Mattson disagrees and says it is unregulated, the MCL has not yet been established according to the Drinking Water Regulations. Ours is in nanograms, which is parts per trillion and therefore ours would be 0.00000247. Mr. Fasanello says the fact that it is detected cannot be good and Mr. Mattson responds there is no doubt. Mr. Fasanello says we need to figure out how to fix this. Mr. Mattson informs that he plans to get a cost estimate. Mr. Fasanello says if we use ultra violet we can also use it as an oxidizer and chlorinator. Mr. Fettig asks if just one well is affected and the answer is yes, Washington Well #6. Mr. Fettig then asks if it is possible to shut down this one well and Mr. Mattson answers yes, but it is our largest producing well. Mr. Fasanello suggests that perhaps as water use lessens that maybe we could turn it off. Mr. Mattson reminds that this is showing up in the untreated water at the wellhead, not in the treated. He says he will gather all the information and an estimate as a separate building would be required. Mr. Turner asks if this has shown in any other wells and Mr. Mattson says no. He explains that this is reported to DEP by GeoInsight as part of their testing requirements. Mr. Fettig mentions the trichloroethene and Mr. Mattson says it remains stable.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REQUEST TO MEET WITH SEWER & WATER COMM.

Economic Development is asking to meet with this Board with regard to Route 1A Industrial Park. Mr. Muti suggests that all Commissioners read the Nanigret Report before scheduling an appointment and to be prepared to ask a lot of questions. The Board does not have a problem with giving them an appointment to come in and discuss things.

BAKER HUGHES, PHASE IV FINAL INSPECTION REPORT (FORMER BIRD MACHINE)

There is discussion with regard to the Board not being happy over the fact that the final inspection report has been issued as there is still a lot of clean up that should be done. They believe there should be a full site clean up. Mr. Muti says the pond was never looked at. Mr. Turner says he has a number of concerns. He says he attended many of the meeting for this and there are too many questions left unanswered. He feels it needs to be kept alive and an aquatic study should be done. There is further discussion. Mr. Muti says he has a problem with the attitude of the town and their lack of action. He attended most of the meetings only to find no Conservation Commission, Town Administration, Board of Health, Board of Selectmen, Planning Board. It was essentially he and one other. He felt it was very difficult to present arguments without backup. **Motion Made** by Roger Turner to send a letter to all other Boards, Commissions and Administration stating the unhappiness of this Board over the lack of

support from those whom this is addressed to and the fact that the final inspection report has been issued without any indication of future remedial action being taken. The letter should also state that being that Walpole is a sole source aquifer, anything related to water would have a direct effect on our drinking water and for this reason the project should be kept alive if not for today then for future generations. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

COLONIAL WATER COMPANY REQUEST WITHDRAWAL

Colonial Water is withdrawing their request for an interconnection with Walpole and this is considered read and noted.

WATER AND SEWER INDIRECTS

This will remain on the agenda until Mr. Muti has the opportunity to review it.

NORTHRIDGE FARM REVISED PLAN

This is on the agenda again because the plans were not available at the last meeting. Mr. Fasanello asks about easements. Mr. Mattson will check with the Town Engineer to see if any easements that were requested are shown.

Mr. Fettig speaks of his visit to the Cambridge Water Treatment Plant. He tells how they draw in pond water and treat it for drinking water. There is discussion on how precious water has become and the need to protect and use resources available.

Mr. Fettig then speaks of the letter in the Walpole Times last week that Mr. Taylor signed as Sewer & Water Commissioner. He would like to applaud Mr. Taylor for taking the time to express his opinions in the local paper however since the subject was educational, he questions whether Mr. Taylor should be using his elected title. He feels this way because by signing this way, it appears that it is the view of the entire Board rather than the individual. Mr. Taylor disagrees and says when Board of Selectmen sign a letter they use their title and it is attempted to explain to Mr. Taylor that this is because they oversee the entire Town, where we are supposed to oversee just sewer and water. Mr. Fasanello feels Mr. Taylor has a right to sign any way he wants to. It is explained that there have been questions as to what kind of problem "the Board" has with the schools. It is suggested that Mr. Taylor omit signing as a Commissioner and perhaps sign as Town Meeting Rep or no title at all. Mr. Taylor agrees to omit Sewer and Water Commissioner.

Mr. Mattson tells that the Capital Budget Committee at 7:15 tomorrow is to meet with us regarding Article 2 of the FATM which is the supplemental \$225,000. Mr. Fasanello says he has not seen the bids for the removal of the High Plain Street tanks. Mr. Mattson explains that this is because it is because they are not yet bid. He says this is a three part contract; construction of the new tank, demolition of the High Plain Street tanks, and whatever else is needed. Mr. Fasanello asks who wrote the contract this way and Mr. Mattson says our engineers Wright Pierce did and Mr. Fasanello then asks who decided it should be done this way and Mr. Mattson says he did. Mr. Fasanello says it was not his place to make this decision that it should have been a Board decision. Mr. Mattson says he takes exception to Mr. Fasanello undermining his integrity. There is heated discussion. Mr. Turner says this is not the way to conduct a meeting and leaves at 8:20. Mr. Mattson does not feel he should have to justify his actions as Superintendent and leaves the meeting. **Motion Made** by James Taylor to support Article 2 in the amount of \$225,000 to pay for the conditions set by the Planning Board at the new tank site. Second by

Ken Fettig. Vote 2-2-0, Fasanello and Muti against. There is no vote. There is discussion and it asked that this subject be put back on the agenda at the next meeting.

Mr. Fasanello then speaks of his trip to Alaska and how the crews have red and blue flashing lights on their vehicles when working in the roads. For the safety of our crews he would like to have the same done in Walpole and asks that this be brought to the attention of Town Administration.

Motion Made by Kevin Muti to adjourn. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 4-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.