

**November 26, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, November 26, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington St.

Present: William Abbott, John Spillane, Patrick Fasanello, Glenn Maffei and John Hasenjaeger. Also Scott Gustafson, Asst. Supt. of Sewer and Water, Rick Mattson, DPW Director, and new Supt. of Sewer and Water Bernie Marshall.

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to accept the minutes of November 5, 2018 with amendment. Second by Glenn Maffei. Vote 4-0-0.

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

Mr. Mattson reports that they have had some minor service leaks and he is waiting for the big main break which he already expected to happen. PJ Hayes is working on the services in the Burns, Charlotte, Marston area and once completed then he will move to the side streets off of Common St. He may not complete the task as there were some unexpected minor issues in the East Walpole project however they will pick up in the spring. Water demand was at an average 2.02 mgd with a high of 2.58 mgd and low of 1.57 mgd. Mr. Mattson then introduces the new Superintendent of Sewer and Water, Bernie Marshall to the entire Board. Mr. Marshall speaks of his past experience and says he is happy to be back with the Town of Walpole. Mr. Mattson then speaks about the budgets and says he has done the preliminary sewer and water budgets. He says water expenses will go up .02%. The MWRA Sewer Assessment is expected to go up 4% and we also need to fund discharging the residual at the Willis Plant due to our Administrative Order. One option would be to pump to the MWRA sewer however this would be at a large cost. Mr. Maffei inquires about the 4% assessment and if it included the cost to pump the residuals and Mr. Mattson responds it did not include the residuals and explains that the solids drive up the cost. He adds that Mr. Gustafson is meeting with the engineers tomorrow to determine the best action to take with this. Mr. Mattson recommends that any capital projects this year be paid through retained earnings and not take on any more debt. Mr. Abbott reviews the list for the Capital Budget. Mr. Mattson says the plan to rehabilitate the Delaney plant in phases, Mr. Gustafson would like to replace the VFD's as they are quite old and we will also have to fund the sludge handling system at this site. He adds, that Mueller took over the KP system and the transmitters are starting to age and we should consider starting to replace them.

Mr. Hasenjaeger arrived at this time (7:15 pm)

Mr. Mattson continues that ½ of the transmitter units could be funded by sewer and there is also the rehabilitation of Morningside and Eleanor Road Pump stations. Mr. Fasanello wonders if town forces can do any of the projects proposed and Mr. Mattson will look into this. Mr. Abbott asks if there are any vehicle replacements and Mr. Mattson says yes, Mr. Gustafson's vehicle and the meter van.

### **SWIMMING AT JARVIS FARM**

This is taken out of order. Mr. Abbott says he would like to have all requests for the use of Jarvis Farm under the Recreation Department including this topic. It would then come to the Sewer & Water Commission for approval. However he would like to have this Board vote tonight stating that if the Recreation Department receives a request to swim for 2 weekends with lifeguards then we would be okay with it. Mr. Carroll says he wants to make sure the approvals would not be for June but rather August. Mr. Abbott continues that the lifeguards would be paid from the profit we make from the Rec Dept. and if it is more than we profit it would be up to the Rec. Dept. to fund the rest. Mr. Spillane says this Board never voted to use our profit to fund this. Mr. Carroll says he has been everywhere and he really wants this to happen. There is discussion and Mr. Abbott says he would like to let the Rec Dept. know that this Board is not opposed to a 2 week trial for this.

Mr. Hasenjaeger suggests that since there is little use of the South Pool at times so that it is shut down, the Rec. Dept. orchestrate the closing of this pool for these 2 weekends and have these lifeguard go the Jarvis Farm. He says he is not predisposed to misappropriating the ratepayer's money. **Motion Made** by William Abbott if the Recreation Department comes to this Board for trial swimming for 2 weekends with lifeguards that we agree to the request by this vote. Second by Glenn Maffei. Mr. Fasanello asks Mr. Mattson if the parking lot is now impervious and the answer is no and there are no plans in place to make it impervious. Mr. Fasanello has a problem with this as he does not feel the watershed is protected from leaking vehicles. Vote on the motion 3-2-0, Spillane and Fasanello against.

#### **REQUEST FOR BILL ADJUSTMENT – 108 KENDALL ST.**

Mr. Hiltz has written to the Board requesting an abatement on sewer charges for water used and billed to irrigate trees, shrubs and garden which resulted in a large bill due to the new block rate. Discussion is held regarding his ability to have gotten a second meter for his outside watering and the fact that sewer charges without the second meter is based on 80% of water usage. Mr. Mattson cautions the Board from abating this as it will set a precedent for other outside water users. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to send a letter to 108 Kendall St. explaining the block rate and how this affected his water charges and informing him that we must remain consistent in our policies and therefore the charges cannot be abated. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 3-1-1, Hasenjaeger abstained and Spillane against.

#### **REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION – 196 BAKER ST.**

Mr. Mattson explains the problem that has been ongoing on portions of Baker Street with discoloration. Ms. Smith is looking for some type of abatement for the problems she has incurred. Mr. Mattson feels at the very least the water she has run through the hose should be abated. Mr. Spillane asks when replacement of this line is to take place and Mr. Mattson says bids are expected to be open in January or February with construction to begin in the spring. Mr. Abbott suggests that administration come up with a fair proposal to consider for Ms. Smith. Mr. Hasenjaeger feels her homeowners insurance should take care of the losses she is claiming was caused by our water. Mr. Mattson would like to ask Ms. Smith more specifics on what she is looking for from the Board. The Board agrees.

#### **COMMENT REQUEST - FOXHILL DR.**

These are proposed storage units. Information is reviewed and discussed. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to concur with the comments of the Town Engineer. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0.

#### **COMMENT REQUEST – 2285 PROVIDENCE HIGHWAY**

This is rehabilitation of the previous gas station that recently closed. Information is reviewed and discussed. **Motion Made** by Glenn Maffei to concur with the comments of the Town Engineer. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

#### **COMMENT REQUEST 46-50 KENDALL ST.**

There is discussion as to whether or not this is a separate unit. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to place this on hold for further clarification. Mr. Mattson says will get further clarification to determine whether or not a second entrance fee is necessary or if it is an addition to the current residence. Second by John Hasenjaeger. Vote 5-0-0.

#### **REVISED 1350 NORTH ST. DAYCARE**

Mr. Mattson refers to the Town Engineer's comments regarding this where she talks about the appropriate size of the water line. He feels this is the responsibility of the applicant's engineer, not his. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to send a memo to the Planning Board stating that the applicant's engineer should determine the correct size water line for this project. Second by Glenn Maffei. Vote 5-0-0.

#### **COMMENT REQUEST 19 CHEROKEE LA**

This is read and noted.

**COMMENT REQUEST WASHINGTON ST., ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF BOSTON**

This is read and noted

**COMMENT REQUEST – LOTS 15 TO 19 KILRONAN PARK**

All information is reviewed and discussed and this is read and noted.

**COMMENT REQUEST – RTE 1A MAIN ST. ATHLETIC FIELDS**

There is discussion on the suspended solids at Memorial Pond being a good fill for the new Athletic Fields. Mr. Abbott believes the Board should invite representatives to one our meetings to discuss water demands and all agree.

The 7:10 appointment with Town Administration is postponed until a later date.

Mr. Mattson introduces the new Superintendent of Sewer and Water, Bernie Marshall and Mr. Marshall gives his background and tells the Board that he is excited to take on the new position.

**7:30 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Jackie Cowan, Town Counsel is present for this session.

**Motion Made** by Glenn Maffei to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation in the matter of 95 West Street Apartments Investors LLC, et al v. Town of Walpole, et al., Norfolk Superior Court No. 1882-CV-0082, if the Chair declares that discussion the matter at an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the Town, with the Board not to return to open session. Chairman Abbott so declares. Second by John Spillane. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Fasanello – Aye, John Hasenjaeger – Aye, John Spillane – Aye, Glenn Maffei – Aye, William Abbott – Aye.

**Motion Made** by John Spillane to come out of executive session. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Fasanello – Aye, John Hasenjaeger – Aye, John Spillane – Aye, Glenn Maffei – Aye, William Abbott – Aye.

**Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to adjourn. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

*Approved December 17, 2018*