

March 11, 2013

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, March 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Facility, 1303 Washington Street.

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

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

Motion Made by Kevin Muti to accept the minutes of February 25, 2013 with suggested corrections being made. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STATUS REPORT

Mr. Mattson reports construction of the new tank has begun and they are prepping the site and making an access road. He sent letters to abutters who had attended the hearings with the proposed schedule of events. He intends to keep them updated. Mr. Fasanello says he has spoken to the neighbors and they do not seem agitated at all. He did however receive some complaints that there are some trees that are leaning towards their property and he told them to call the Town. Mr. Mattson says he believes these trees are outside the scope of the project however they can still be taken care of if they are Town trees. Mr. Mattson says there have been 7 broken water mains over the past week and weather conditions have made the repairs difficult. Other than what has just been reported, Mr. Mattson says things have been relatively quiet.

Motion Made by James Taylor to go right to the 7:15 appointment. Second by Kevin Muti. Vote 5-0-0.

7:15 APPT. DON GALLUCCI/KATE WILSON, WESTON & SAMPSON RE: I/I

Mr. Gallucci says they are here tonight to update the Board with regard to inflow and infiltration as to where they have been and where they are going. A few years ago the Town was split into areas where investigations and TV work was done to find the problems and then the problems were fixed. He turns the meeting over to Ms. Wilson who provides a handout and gives a brief overview. She says this is an 8 year program. Mr. Mattson says in 1990 as a condition of funding of the Phase 3 sewer project, they were required to enter the 2 for 1 inflow and infiltration removal program. He adds that over the years the ratio and the rates changed. When Weston and Sampson first embarked on this project there was an excessive amount of I/I, mostly infiltration. In 2006, the ratio was changed to the MWRA standard of 4 for 1 removal and treatment and transport costs were increased to \$11.41 per gallon, which still stands today. Mr. Gallucci explains that this amount is based on cost per gallon per day and what would be spent to remove it rather than let it go. Mr. Fasanello asks Mr. Gallucci to explain to the public exactly what inflow and infiltration is, which is done. Mr. Fettig notices that the handout is missing some of the numbers for the subareas and Ms. Wilson explains the numbers that are missing are the areas that will be done this year and the consecutive year. There is discussion. Mr. Muti asks if \$11.41 is reasonable and Mr. Gallucci responds that this is the breakpoint that would be cost effective for removal. Mr. Mattson says in 1990 it was 2 for 1 up until 2006 and then there was an aggressive program thus changed to 4 for 1. It is now more difficult for projects to be cost effective and he recommends scaling back to the 2 for 1. There is discussion and Mr. Gallucci says several communities are 2 for 1 and Mr. Mattson adds that some are 1 for 1. After conversation Mr. Gallucci informs that ½ the discharge is sewage and ½ is inflow and infiltration, which is not unusual for older towns. Mr. Fasanello asks if there is so much I/I why it is so hard to find and Mr. Mattson says they are small jobs that cost a lot of money. There is

further discussion and the chairman opens to public for any questions and there are none. Weston and Sampson is thanked.

FLUORIDE CONCENTRATION REDUCTION VOTE

There is some discussion and Mr. Mattson says he needs a vote of the Board to reduce the amount of fluoride added to the water as it is a mandate of the Commonwealth. It is decided that this vote will be brought up again after the public meeting for total fluoride removal which is scheduled later tonight.

BD OF APPEALS REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, 24 PILGRIM WAY, HILL FAMILY RLTY

All plans and comments are reviewed and discussed. Mr. Mattson suggests that they could eliminate 2 dead ends. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to send a letter to the Board of Appeals stating that this Commission concurs with the comments of the Town Engineer. Additionally, a connection of the water main from Pilgrim Way to Polley Lane, as well as a utility easement from the end of the cul de sac to Eastland Circle should be required. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

PLANNING BD AND CONCOM REQUEST FOR COMMENTS 400 OLD POST RD.

All information is reviewed and discussed. The Board wonders if there are any easements that could be connected and Mr. Mattson says he would have to consult with the Town Engineer regarding this.

SITE PLAN DECISION, LEAGUE SCHOOL

This is read and noted.

YEARLY OPERATIONAL PLAN – NSTAR

Mr. Mattson says this is the annual notification we get and it is read and noted.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA MORATORIUM SATM ARTICLE

Mr. Fasanello asks why this is not distributed in a pharmacy and wonders why it is getting special treatment. **Motion Made** by Kevin Muti to send a letter to the Planning Board to say that this Commission supports the moratorium. Second by Roger Turner. Mr. Fasanello says the people of Walpole voted for this and now are being denied what they voted for. Vote on the motion, 2-3-0, Fetting, Fasanello and Taylor against. Motion fails.

PLANNING BD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR SATM ZONING MAP AMENDMENT

Mr. Fetting says he would like to know more about the article. Mr. Turner explains where it is on Main Street near Gill Street and the purpose of changing the zoning is to allow business here. There is some discussion and it is decided that it is more of a conservation issue and therefore considered read and noted.

REQUEST TO DECLARE OLD METERS AS SURPLUS

Mr. Mattson explains that this is a memo that went to the Board of Selectmen to allow him to sell the old meters that are of no use to the Town. Mr. Fasanello says he would like to purchase one as a memento once the fair value is determined.

MOOSEHILL RD 40B DRAFT REPORTS FOR WATER AND SEWER STUDY

Mr. Mattson explains that he was contacted by the engineer working for the proponent to do a peer review of the water and sewer systems. He referred him to our consultants and subsequently Wright Pierce was hired for water and Weston and Sampson was hired for sewer preliminary reports which are before the Board tonight. Mr. Fasanello asks Mr. Mattson for a brief interpretation. Mr. Mattson says

the way he sees it the water report indicates a couple of off sight improvements are needed to satisfy fire flows. The pressures and volumes are adequate however fire flows need improving which may be resolved by increasing pipe size in a couple of locations. He reminds that this report was written to the proponents, not to us. Mr. Mattson feels the sewer is more unclear and they are exploring all available options; one is to pump across Route 1 like the League School does; another is to investigate gravity which has not been done thoroughly. He asks the Board to keep in mind that these reports are preliminary. Mr. Fasanello says he has been through this before and we know our limitations and although it is a 40B they will be required to meet all of our regulations without exception. Mr. Mattson says the Building Inspector, Jack Mee, is very good. With big projects such as this he holds an up front meeting with the project proponents and affected departments and a lot of information comes out of them. Mr. Fasanello says he does not see many impediments for their development. Mr. Mattson says that is correct with regard to water however sewer needs to be looked at more. Potential fees are discussed. Mr. Fasanello opens the meeting to the audience for questions or comments. Mr. Scott Curran of 261 Moosehill Road asks if any part of Traphole Brook is in this property and no one can provide a definite answer for this although there are concerns. Mr. Snuffer says careful attention was given to Traphole Brook when Siemens was originally built. There is further discussion on the fees that would be required and Mr. Fasanello wants to stress that they would have to pay the same as any other developer. Since there are currently no plot plans or applications submitted for this subdivision, the Commission feels their discussion should wait until they receive such.

Michael Viano and his partner Sean McEntee have been present and ask if the Board intends to address the inflow and infiltration. Mr. Fasanello says he was surprised that they did not speak up when Weston and Sampson were present. There is disagreement between Mr. Mattson and Mr. McEntee as to whether or not inflow and infiltration should apply to his sewer line as it is private. Mr. Mattson says it is still connected to our sewer main and therefore considered a building connection. Mr. McEntee asks for verification in the rules and regulations which Mr. Mattson provides. Then the argument by Mr. Viano and Mr. McEntee is that the current fee schedule does not indicate the 4 to 1 ratio for inflow and infiltration which the rules and regulations refer to and therefore they thought it was 1 to 1. Since it was not published Mr. Viano and Mr. McEntee claim that they should not be responsible for paying anymore than 1 to 1. The Board feels that they should perhaps have legal help to resolve this. **Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to have the Town Administrator get Town Counsel involved with this situation. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0. Mr. Mattson asks what the Stewart family can do in the meantime, as they are trying to obtain a building permit and water and sewer can not sign off on it until this is resolved. There is discussion and Mr. Fettig suggests that they put the fee up until we have our answer. Mr. Mattson suggests that a letter be sent to the building inspector Jack Mee telling him that this Board is okay with him issuing the building permit for this one lot only in the subdivision however no certificate of occupancy should be issued until the inflow and infiltration is resolved. **Motion Made** by James Taylor to go along with the suggestion of Mr. Mattson regarding the Stewart situation. Second by Kevin Muti. Vote 5-0-0.

8:00 PUBLIC MEETING – FLUORIDE

The chairman opens the public meeting and asks each Commission of their opinion on removing fluoride from the Town's water supply. Mr. Fettig says he not opposed to dropping the amount added however he would not want to see it removed totally. Mr. Turner says he would like to see it dropped altogether. Mr. Muti agrees with Mr. Turner. Mr. Taylor says he does not have an opinion either way. Mr. Fasanello feels that it is added however it is not necessary to provide drinking water and we are in the business of supplying pure clean water. Mr. Mattson agrees with taking it out of the water supply as it is an additive which has outlived its useful purpose and there is no reason to keep this treatment. Mr.

Muti says the CDC has acknowledged that it is topical and not systemic and therefore no need to swallow. With all the foods that are prepped and mixed with water there is probably high doses of fluoride that are ingested which is known to cause brittle bones and thyroid issues. Mr. Muti believes it should be totally removed. Mr. Turner says he wants fluoride out of the drinking water. He feels fluoride which is unnecessary. Mr. Muti asks the annual cost for adding fluoride and Mr. Mattson responds when all is said and done it is approximately \$21,000. Mr. Fettig says he is willing to go lower but not necessarily eliminate it. There is discussion of putting an article on the fall annual town meeting. Mr. Fasanello says the Sewer & Water Commission have the authority to eliminate it. Mr. Spillane asks why they would put an article on if it is not necessary and Mr. Fasanello responds that he feels it is a good idea to give the public a chance to voice their opinion. Mr. Moraski suggests reducing the budget by \$21,000 in anticipation of the fluoride being removed. Mr. Muti feels they need to find the ruling as to whether or not the removal is from the vote of the Board or by a town meeting vote. Mr. Moraski says if the money is taken out of the budget there is nothing to spend on fluoride. Mr. Fasanello still feels the public should have a say. **Motion Made** by James Taylor to reduce the amount of fluoride added to the water supply to 0.7 ppm. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0. **Motion Made** by Kevin Muti to place an article before the Fall Annual Town Meeting for removal of fluoridation from the Town's water supply and that the Sewer & Water Commission support this article. Second by James Taylor. Vote 5-0-0.

Mr. Moraski asks if the Sewer & Water Commission is going to take a position on the Maguire Report where there is conversation of a new police station, senior center and expansion of the DPW in Area 1 of our Aquifer Protection Area. He tells of the roundtable that was held to discuss this and was quite disappointed that the Sewer & Water Commission was not invited to the roundtable discussion. The Board is in agreement that they do not have enough information at this time to take a position and the secretary is asked to provide them with a copy of the report. Mr. Taylor would like this on the next agenda. Mr. Turner gives a brief summary of the Maguire Report. Mr. Moraski feels comments from this Board are better sooner than later. He is all for protecting the aquifer as there is not an unlimited supply. He feels that there are aquifer protection by laws that the Town should have to adhere to just as much as anyone else. Mr. Fasanello says the Board needs to look at the report before any votes can be taken. This will be put on the next agenda.

INFORMATIONAL SCHEDULE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW WATER STORAGE TANK

Mr. Mattson says this is information that he sent to all abutters of the new tank that attended our last public meeting on this.

Mr. Fasanello says that Mr. Mattson is adamant that he needs the additional truck that the Board voted at the last meeting to take out of Article 8 and has asked the Board to reconsider. Mr. Mattson explains that he has 3 trucks for 5 or 6 employees and it is neither practical or efficient to continue the way he is handling this. The septage facility is now open and there are wells and treatment plants that all require attention at the same time. The emergency management vehicle is brought up and Mr. Mattson says this is an old building maintenance vehicle that is used by various departments including his at times. Mr. Turner says this vehicle is on its last legs. Mr. Fettig does not understand how the vehicle in Article 7 can be in such bad shape as he does not feel it is that old. Mr. Mattson explains that it is a Ranger which in his opinion should have never been bought, however it is used off road to the wells and has really taken a beating. Mr. Fettig feels we are running a Cadillac operation rather than a Ford. Mr. Turner feels we should follow with the recommendation of our Superintendent. Mr. Muti says we need to have common sense. If the truck we have needs repair after repair and we end up paying for this and then buying a new truck, the new truck will probably cost \$31,000 instead of the \$27,000. He feels the risk of breakdown of the truck, the inconvenience going forward and the buying a truck down the road will

end up costing more. Mr. Taylor asks how many total vehicles there are and for how many employees and Mr. Mattson says 6 vehicles for 13 employees. Mr. Fasanello wonders about a compromise as he feels Mr. Fettig makes sense. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to reconsider the vote taken at the February 25, 2013 meeting which eliminated the purchase of a new truck for \$27,000 under Article 8. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0. **Motion Made** by Ken Fettig to put the \$27,000 back into Article 8 for the new truck and remove the \$27,000 from Article 7 for the new truck. Additionally, keep the vehicle that Article 7 was intended to replace and make repairs as needed. Second by James Taylor. Vote 4-1-0, Muti against.

Mr. Mattson says he was notified by the Asst. Town Administrator that he is seeking a capital request to replace all radios as there are so many issues with the communications. The total cost is proposed to be \$95,000 and our responsibility is \$5750 for water and \$5750 for sewer. Mr. Turner says tonight is the first he has heard of this. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to appoint Roger Turner as this Commissions "point man" regarding the replacement of the radios and communications equipment. Second by Ken Fettig. Vote 5-0-0.

Mr. Fasanello brings up the dioxane problem. Mr. Mattson says it is at very low levels and through investigation he found that the way to treat it is by advanced oxidation. They can either treat the entire aquifer or at the source which is Washington 6 with the cost being \$1.2m to \$1.5m. If the Board wishes to actively pursue it then he would recommend seeking legal counsel to approach Metal Bellows since they are the source. He says the level at Washington 6 is 0.17 and he believes the detection level is 0.15 so it is minimal. Mr. Muti says we need to get this out. Mr. Mattson says he included it in his list of capital improvements and if the Board desires he can start to solicit quotes. Mr. Fasanello feels we need to move forward as it is an unwanted chemical. **Motion Made** by James Taylor to investigate the cost of technologies and legal responsibility for the removal of dioxane. Second by Kevin Muti. Vote 5-0-0.

Mr. Mattson asks the Board if they have any sense on where they would like to go with inflow and infiltration and the members agree that they don't feel they want to change anything at this time.

Motion Made by James Taylor to adjourn. Second by Kevin Muti. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Accepted March 25, 2013