

January 11, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, January 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Facility, 1303 Washington Street.

Present: John Spillane, Roger Turner, William Abbott, Patrick Fasanello and Tom Brown. Also, Rick Mattson, Supt. of Sewer and Water.

The Chairman opens the meeting.

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

Motion Made by Patrick Fasanello to accept the minutes of December 14, 2015. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STATUS REPORT

Mr. Mattson reports that they had another broken water main which makes 4 in the last 2 weeks. With this one Siemen's, the Mall and a good part of East Walpole had low pressure. There is discussion on the condition of the pipe and Mr. Mattson felt the cause was more the material that was used to backfill. Mr. Abbott speaks of the main replaced on Killeen Rd. many years ago due to all the breaks. Mr. Abbott then reports that they are going to change a valve on West Street near Renmar Road that they found and cannot tell whether it is open or not because they can't move it. It could be ½ open or ½ closed so he is thinking this might be part of the cause of the problem in this area. They will also be repairing a hydrant that was damaged due to a car accident.

BIDS FOR SEPTAGE FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENDMENT #2 FROM W&S

Weston & Sampson has provided the 3 low bidders for the Septage Receiving Facility Improvements. They have checked references of the low bidder and based on this and past experience with this company they are recommending this company. Mr. Mattson says this bid is to replace the grit conveyor, the air handling units and a couple of vaults. Mr. Mattson then explains the process of grit removal which is now blocking the aeration process. Mr. Fasanello asks if they will still have to rake out the rags and the answer is yes. There is some discussion regarding this. Mr. Spillane asks if we are still making money and the answer is yes. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to send a memo to the Board of Selectmen recommending award of the bid for Septage Receiving Improvement s to Interstate Water & Wastewater Specialists, LLC in the amount of \$114,400. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0.

CONCOM REQUEST FOR COMMENTS FOR NOI AT 8 SKYVIEW DR.

Mr. Mattson says this is for the building of a swimming pool and should be considered a read and noted. The Board agrees with this.

SEWER AND WATER O&M BUDGET

Mr. Abbott says the budget is 2.7% over last year and there does not appear to be anything unusual. Mr. Mattson says the MWRA Assessment is up causing the sewer budget to go up. He adds that the water pump station professional services budget line has been increased because of the issues from last well cleaning contract. He feels there needs to be a mechanism in place as the equipment is getting old and he may need the money to remedy a problem. He shifted some of the money from the chemicals line as it appears that the cost of chemicals has stabilized. Mr. Abbott asks what would happen if something catastrophic happened and he was told there could be a declaration of emergency. It is agreed that the

retained earnings needs to be healthier. Mr. Spillane suggests that they all go through the budget and contact Mr. Mattson with any questions.

7:15 APPT. TOM O'LEARY, 141 WINTER ST., BILL DISPUTE

All available information is reviewed. Mr. O'Leary explains that he had a leaking toilet that caused his water/sewer bill to become huge. He did not realize how much it would cost as it was a trickle and until he googled it after getting his bill. He says it was an honest mistake, he should have fixed it. Mr. Abbott says in the past they only gave relief if it did not go into the sewer so he does not see any basis for an abatement. Mr. Spillane asks if he knew about the leak and the response is yes but it was only a trickle. Mr. Brown asks what he is looking for and Mr. O'Leary says he would be willing to split the bill. Mr. Abbott says he understands the problem however he would not be able to vote in favor of this because it doesn't fit past practice. Mr. O'Leary says he works for Verizon and adjusts bills all of the time. He believes it can be done and suggests a new practice. Mr. Spillane does not see how we could justify this. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to deny Mr. O'Leary's request for an abatement on his water/sewer bill based on past practice and in an effort to remain consistent. Second by John Spillane. Mr. Brown says he would be willing to consider ½ of the sewer and no one expresses any interest in discussing this. Vote on the motion 4-1-0, Brown against.

CAPITAL BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Mattson reviews the request and says the Board should only focus on the 2017 requests. Mr. Fasanello says treatment of dioxane should be #1 in 2017 not 2018. Priority #1 is for mixing systems in the south and north tanks for better disinfecting. Mr. Fasanello wonders why we now need them as they were never needed before. Mr. Mattson explains the system that is at the Duffy tank. He says it is not a critical improvement but is good for water quality. Mr. Spillane asks if the price is good and the answer is yes. Mr. Mattson tells of the south tank having a common inlet and outlet pipe. Priority #2 is for replacing the water main on Lincoln, Granite, Alice and Edgewood. Mr. Fasanello asks if our forces will be doing any of it and the answer is no, they would only be able to do Alice and Edgewood. Mr. Mattson says he is not convinced that replacement is necessary. He has asked our consultants to look at the chemistry instead of quality as he believes there may be some type of oxidation going on. If able to find a chemical problem they may be able to replacing in phases. Mr. Fasanello asks for Mr. Mattson's opinion and he says the thinks some type of oxidation sits in the unlined pipe and oxidizes the dead ends. He says if the water continuously runs then it runs clear. Alice Ave. is in terrible condition and it is asked how long the main is. The answer is 2,950 feet which would cost would be \$342,000 to replace Alice and Edgewood. Mr. Mattson looked into cleaning and lining and the cost would be \$50 per foot for an 8" line however other associated costs would bring it up to the replacement cost. There is then discussion on the different sizes of pipe in the Lincoln Road area. Mr. Spillane says it would be good if the valve that they found would be broken in the half position and was found to be the cause of the problem. Mr. Abbott suggests splitting this priority doing Alice and Edgewood in the spring and Lincoln area in the fall once there is a better sense as to what the problem is there. Mr. Mattson explains that each of these priorities is from borrowing and stand alone articles which would mean individual action can be taken. There is some discussion as to whether or not stand alone articles are a good idea. Priority #3 of 2017 is improvement to the Old Post Road storage tank and Mr. Mattson asks the Board to make a decision on what they want to do with this. Mr. Fasanello wants to rehab it and keep it and suggests that a standalone communication be built and by allowing this they can pick up the cost for our rehab. Mr. Mattson says it would be better served as a platform. Mr. Fasanello says we are talking about .5 mg of water and Mr. Mattson responds that only ½ of this is used. Mr. Fasanello disagrees and there is some back and forth discussion on this. Mr. Mattson then speaks of the other option which is to remove it from service and install a booster station and he is asked the cost for this. Mr. Mattson says he

did not investigate this as the Board was not in favor of it. He is asked to look into this. He wants the Board to make a decision and if they do decide to keep it then they will have to rehab it. He is asked if there a lot of pressure complaints and his response is that most have grown accustomed to the pressure. Mr. Abbott suggests that if they are satisfied with the pressure then let's rehab it and continue to use it unless the booster station cost comes in significantly less. Mr. Brown says we should table this until we have information on both costs. Priority #4 is to rehab the water booster pump stations. Mr. Fasanella asks if Texaco pays for their booster station and the answer is no. Mr. Fasanella would like him to find out why they don't since they caused the problem. Mr. Brown asks for the reason they need to be rehabbed and Mr. Mattson responds that it is to bring them up to modern standards. Pressure regulator valve replacement at Fisher St. near Walden Dr. is priority #5. Mr. Mattson says this is not critical and Mr. Abbott says it could be deferred. Mr. Mattson again reminds that the Town Administrator intends to do standalone articles and Mr. Fasanella says we should put them all together. Mr. Spillane likes the idea of doing one at a time. Mr. Abbott just wants to remind that projects will increase the rates and Mr. Mattson adds that these projects will increase the rate 9.2% if all the improvements are done. Mr. Spillane asks the Board to look at these and we can talk again on the 25th.

8:00 APPT. ATTY. BILL O'CONNELL, JITEN HOTEL, RTE. 1

Mr. O'Connell and Engineer John Holmgren attended this appointment and Mr. Holmgren goes over the plans. The focus is on the path and looping of the water main. Mr. Abbott asks about the cost for entrance fees and Mr. Mattson responds that each room is considered a dwelling unit. He also reports that Weston & Sampson has been hired by the applicant to determine whether or not this project will have a negative influence on the already problematic sewer odor in the area. This is at the applicant's expense. Mr. Mattson says the applicant has already been made aware of all fees for water and sewer. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to send a letter to the Planning Board stating that this Board concurs with the comments of the Town Engineer. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0.

Mr. Brown asks all to look at the SWEET Program that he is proposing which would be a youth education program geared toward using resources at Jarvis Farm to study the earth sciences. SWEET stands for science, water, earth, energy and trees. He is proposing with potential funding coming from the local schools and possibly through grants. Mr. Brown would like to see Jarvis used year round and feels this would be a way of doing it. Mr. Mattson says he will give the proposal that Mr. Brown passed out tonight to the School Dept. and the Town Administrator.

Mr. Mattson says NepRWA has contacted him and is looking to partner with us for water conservation education at the schools as they did in the past for about \$5200. Mr. Spillane asks if they expect us to come up with the money and the answer is yes. Mr. Fasanella asks what we get out of it and he is told it will help with our Water Management Permit. Mr. Abbott feels it would be worthwhile looking into in combination with Mr. Brown's proposal.

Motion Made by Patrick Fasanella to adjourn. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Accepted 1/25/16