

January 9, 2017

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, January 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington St.

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

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

Motion Made by William Abbott to accept the minutes of November 14, 2016 with the recommended corrections. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STATUS REPORT

Mr. Mattson says not a lot has changed since his last email update. The demand for water is down. The State has kept their drought warnings. He would like to discuss how we want to approach the Water Management Policy for the spring and summer. Mr. Abbott says the State has changed the warning from extreme severe to severe. Mr. Mattson says Washington Well #6 is down 24" and the Board should think about what they want to do. His crew has been working on maintenance items such as fixing gate boxes. Mr. Spillane asks what was done by the dog kennel the other day and Mr. Mattson responds a bypass valve was installed for pressure regulation. Mr. Fasanello then asks if Mr. Mattson intends to hire the ice piggers. Mr. Mattson says this is an interesting process and is relatively inexpensive. It will pick up loose legacy deposits and flush them out of the line. He says it is not cheap but would be cheaper than cleaning and lining. There is discussion on the demonstration that some of the Commissioners got to see. Mr. Mattson then tells that the Septage Facility is complete. Mr. Fasanello asks about the addition and Mr. Mattson says there was no appropriation as the engineers felt it would be cost prohibitive. Mr. Fasanello says now we have lost these customers and revenue. Mr. Brown asks about the grease trap situation at Raven's Nest and Mr. Mattson responds that it is completed and was inspected last week and is working well.

SPECIAL PERMIT-VARIANCE, 95 WEST ST.

Mr. Mattson explains that 95 West Street and 100 Elm Street are basically the same project which is the expansion of the old Kendall property. There will be mixed use. He says he will have to determine entrance costs using previous water usage. Mr. Brown asks about cost comparisons for pipe size and Mr. Mattson responds that our fee schedule dictates the charges. There is further discussion. **Motion Made** by William Abbott to send a letter stating that this Board concurs with the comments of the Town Engineer. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0.

SITE PLAN APPROVAL, MICHAEL MANZO, 100 ELM ST.

Mr. Mattson explains that this is the same property as 95 West St. and is the reconfiguring of the parking here. This is read and noted.

SPECIAL PERMIT REQUEST 1000 WEST ST.

Mr. Mattson says there is already water and sewer to both buildings and entrance fees will eventually have to be determined.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST, 70 COOLIDGE RD.

Mr. Mattson says that the Town did nothing wrong as indicated in Ms. Ross's letter. The homeowner is responsible for their service. As a kind gesture the Town dug it up and reconfigured it and the main was fine, it was the service that was blocked. Their service was configured with too many bends, it was an archive set up. Mr. Fasanello asks, as Superintendent, who Mr. Mattson feels is responsible for the costs and Mr. Mattson says in his opinion it is the homeowners responsibility as it was in his service line in the street and we are only

responsible for the main. Mr. Fasanello feels we should have charged the homeowner for the reconfiguration. Mr. Abbott feels we should adhere to our regulations to address the request.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST - 1075 MAIN ST.

The property owner has sent a letter to the Board requesting additional reimbursement for services provided by private parties with regard to the sewer installation at 1075 Main Street. Mr. Mattson reminds that the Board previously voted to abate any sewer charges since the property owner had bought this property and to waive any sewer entrance fee that might be applied to this lot. Mr. Brown asks if the property owner would have had to connect to sewer either way for this property and the answer is yes. Mr. Fasanello wonders why we did not reimburse only the last 3 years as this is our policy and Mr. Mattson says because this is what the Board voted. All Board members agree that there is no further action required by them and no further reimbursement is warranted.

SEWR EXTENSION PERMIT REQUEST, EASTOVER GLEN CONDO'S

Mr. Mattson wants to confirm the inflow and infiltration policy with regard to payment of the fees. He suggests that we remain consistent. **Motion Made** by John Spillane the Eastover Glen Condo's pay for inflow and infiltration at the time of application for sewer on the building permit. Second by Tom Brown. Vote 5-0-0.

EASEMENT ACCEPTANCE #43 WALDEN DRIVE

Documents were reviewed and discussed. Mr. Fasanello has concerns as the plan says utility easement and all the written documents refer to it as a sewer easement. He refers to a problem we have had in the past with a water easement. Discussion is held. Mr. Fasanello says he will not sign the documents until it is referred to as a utility easement. The rest of the Board agrees. This will be brought back to the Town Engineer.

DROUGHT STATUS UPDATE FROM DEP

This is briefly discussed and Mr. Mattson reminds that there is still a drought and we need to think about our Water Management Policy. This is read and noted.

SPECIAL PERMIT DECISION – SHIELDS, 545 SOUTH ST.

Read and noted.

SITE PLAN DECISION, SHIELDS, 545 SOUTH ST

Read and noted.

WATER MAIN SURVEY RESULTS

Discussion is held with regard to how many responses there were and what it would take to service this area. Mr. Mattson says given the capital projects already planned funding would be an issue. Mr. Spillane feels that we should sit on this for the time being. Mr. Brown asks that a second notice be sent out to those who did not respond.

WATER AND SEWER CAPITAL BUDGET SUBMITTALS

This will be held until the scheduled workshop meeting. Mr. Mattson asks the Board to give some thought to the capital projects prior to this meeting and to keep in mind the date of the closing of the SATM warrant.

Mr. Abbott says to treat the 1.4 dioxane there may be a 1 to 2 year pilot and wonders why Mr. Mattson put a figure of \$1.5 million and Mr. Mattson says he took the worst case scenario. Sample results are discussed and Mr. Mattson explains a split sample using 2 different labs and the qualifiers depends on the analyst. Mr. Abbott says we spoke to Metal Bellows about 3 years ago and they were not willing to pay anything and he would like them to pay. Mr. Fasanello says we can sue them as they are the cause for an unregulated toxin in our water supply. Mr. Mattson does not feel there is a legal standing being that it is unregulated. Mr. Fasanello feels we could take care of it ourselves then bill Metal Bellows and if they do not pay we can then take them to court. He is told the lawyers did not feel we could win the case and Mr. Fasanello says then maybe we need different

lawyers that are more aggressive. Mr. Mattson says he will pull out the old documents. Mr. Brown wonders if an environmental attorney should be consulted. Mr. Abbott says he has done the math on how the different capital would affect the water rate and presents it to the Board saying there would have to be a 12% increase if we did all the projects. Mr. Brown says he is not in favor of such an increase and Mr. Abbott says then we need to pick what we want to do. Mr. Mattson suggests offsetting by looking at an inclining block rate. Mr. Brown says if we are looking at a 12% increase we need to look closer at the delinquent payers and collect that money. Mr. Mattson explains the lien process.

Mr. Abbott asks if there are any plans to connect Plain St. to Breezewood and Mr. Mattson responds eventually they would buy the pipe to look it and have his own forces do this, perhaps in the spring.

Mr. Abbott refers to capital projects in 2020 which is the design and permitting for central storage and doesn't recall this. Mr. Mattson explains his request.

Mr. Abbott asks about the dump truck coming out of the sewer budget and Mr. Mattson says it is will be used by both departments.

WRIGHT-PIERCE REQUEST TO DEP TO CONDUCT PILOT STUDY

Mr. Mattson reports that he met DEP and they are on Board with the sodium silicate addition pilot study. If this is successful it will help in the delay and/or replacement of pipes which will help with keeping the rates down.

GEOINSIGHT SAMPLE RESULTS (FORMER METAL BELLOWS) NOV. AND DEC.

Mr. Abbott asks where Monitor Well 12 is and Mr. Mattson says behind Washington 6. Mr. Mattson also points out that trichloroethane is completely gone from the well.

JARVIS FARM APPLICATIONS

The Board has decided not to act on these tonight.

WATER USAGE RECORDS RELATIVE TO NEW PUBLIC RECORDS LAW

Mr. Brown says he went to the public records law meeting. He says currently anyone can come in and request records of others and according to Town Counsel the only way to change this is through an act of legislation. There is discussion on how this information could be used against a homeowner. **Motion Made** by Tom Brown to send a letter to our legislator to file a bill to exclude water use from being a public record. Second by Roger Turner. Vote 5-0-0.

Mr. Spillane speaks about the antenna on the water tank and the cost for the Old Post Road tank temporary relocation to staging at \$135,000. Mr. Turner submitted a capital improvement for \$270,000 for a permanent relocation. There is discussion and the Board is in agreement that this Commission should not be paying the entire amount as there are other departments that use these antennas. Mr. Mattson suggests that this be addressed at the workshop meeting under indirect costs. This will be done.

Motion Made by Tom Brown to adjourn. Second by William Abbott. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Accepted January 23, 2017