

November 23, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Sewer & Water Commissioners was held on Monday, November 23, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., at the Edward J. Delaney Water Treatment Plant, 1303 Washington St.

The Chairman opens the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

All abatements submitted tonight are reviewed and signed.

Motion Made by William Abbott to accept the minutes of November 9, 2015. Second by Roger Turner. Vote 5-0-0.

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION, 8 HARTSHORN RD., FISHER

There is discussion on the letter sent by Mr. Fisher requesting an abatement on sewer charges. **Motion Made** by John Spillane to abate \$209.51 of sewer on the account for 8 Hartshorn Rd. as calculated by the Water Department staff. Second by Patrick Fasanello. Vote 5-0-0.

PLANNING BOARD REQUEST FOR COMMENTS SITE PLAN & SPEC. PMT JITEN HOTEL

Based on the fact that the Town Engineer has not yet had the opportunity to review these plans it is asked that a letter be sent to the Planning Board stating that this Board's comments are delayed pending comments from the Town Engineer. Mr. Abbott recalls a connection fee established prior to 2004 that would be based on the number of rooms. The secretary is asked to research this. Mr. Fasanello asks for the plan as he seems to remember a convoluted sewer that went at a right angle and he would like to look to see if this was changed. The plan is reviewed and all Board members are in agreement that they would like to wait until the Town Engineer provides comments.

SITE PLAN DECISION, DYNAMIC ENERGY SOLUTIONS

This is considered read and noted.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Fasanello tells he went to the MWRA meeting in Wellesley last Thursday and would like to provide an update to the Board. He tells that Boston Harbor has a cable across to Deer Island When it was put in all agreed on the depth however now they need it deeper because they are making the Panama Canal bigger. The electric company told the MWRA that they need to move the cable and the MWRA said no because they all agreed it was in the right place. The electric company then went to the Dept. of Public Utilities who said the MWRA must move it. The MWRA has now filed a lawsuit. Also Mr. Fasanello says he spoke with Steven Cullen who is the manager of wastewater. He told him about the odor issue in the Pine St. area and he has offered to be used as a resource as he is an expert on this. Mr. Abbott asks if there have been any recent complaints and the answer is no. Mr. Fasanello says the sewer rates for the MWRA have gone up 58% and asks how much we have in our surplus. Mr. Abbott answers there is about \$2 million. Mr. Fasanello asks why so much and why are we not using this to lower the rate. He then says Phase IX of I/I funds was voted which means there are more funds for this and then we can use our \$2 million of retained earnings to reduce the rate. Mr. Abbott says Mr. Mattson had mentioned extending the sewer in East Walpole and North Walpole. Mr. Fasanello then reports that Danvers, Shrewsbury and North Reading are making noises to join the MWRA water. If so they must pay an Assessment Value Contribution Payment (AVCP). He adds that Ashland has already signed on;

they are in big trouble water wise and must pay the AVCP. Lastly, the office should expect something from the MWRA regarding grants as there are about 20 of them out there and the Superintendent should know about them. They are small but worth looking into.

7:15 APPT., J. GLOSSA/S. MCENTEE, OLMSTED MODIFICATON EXPLANATION

Mr. Glossa displays a plan and goes on to explain that Olmsted is under construction and the plan is to connect to the proposed subdivision known as Roscommon and they are asking for approval of the modified application. He says the only change would be at lot 2 and lot 7, there is no change in the 11 lot subdivision. The plan is to bring sewer in from Fisher St. to Emerald Way, pick up 2 houses on Fisher St. and along the backs of Fisher St., but a force main would be required in the back. The Emerald Way sewer line would then extend into the Roscommon subdivision. Mr. Spillane asks how many homes in Roscommon and the answer is 30, one of which is on North St. Mr. Glossa then tells of a cart path from Fisher to North St. The water main will follow this path. Mr. Fasanello asks Mr. Glossa if he is also involved in Roscommon and the answer is yes, the applicant is the same developer, one side is Olmsted and the other side is Roscommon which is an Open Space Residential Development (OSRD). The water main route is explained by Mr. Glossa. Mr. Turner asks if the water and/or sewer lines go through wetlands and Mr. Glossa says the water line does in 2 places, the first one they are crossing by installing a retaining wall and at Gigi's Way there is a very small area and trucks can drive with no problem as it is a very developed cart road and the pipe is 5 feet below wetlands. Mr. Glossa then speaks on the procedure we are requiring. He says there are no projects right now and our Weston & Sampson says the report will not be ready until mid-December. Right now the work must be done prior to a building permit and they are asking if the Board would be amenable to changing it to occupancy permit. Mr. McEntee adds that it would be just for the first couple of houses as they are looking to move forward at this time. Mr. Spillane says he is not comfortable with this as we had problems before and they can put up the cash if they do not want to wait for the projects. Mr. Fasanello agrees. Mr. Fasanello then asks how many houses on Olmsted Lane and the answer is 4. He then asks how the water main is being addressed and Mr. Glossa says it is a 250 foot dead end. Mr. Fasanello then reminds on the previous conversation of a domestic water line and Mr. Glossa says it was preliminarily discussed. Mr. Brown asks if Mr. Fasanello is asking for a water main down the street and then a small line the other way and the answer is yes. It is determined that lots 8, 9, 10 and 11 should be connected and before the hydrant, a 2" copper pipe and bring it back so there is no dead end. Mr. Glossa says he does not have a problem doing this and asks to confirm that the water services will come off the 2" line not the 8" or the main and Mr. Fasanello says this is correct. The Board is in agreement that they will not be providing any comments to the Planning Board until they get the latest comments from the Town Engineer.

Mr. Fasanello says he was unable to make the working meeting for Jarvis Farm and is amazed that the Board made a decision and voted it. He says he never had his say and it was not a regularly scheduled meeting. He doesn't even know what went on. Mr. Abbott says there was an extensive presentation. Mr. Fasanello says he is looking at the parking situation. If we are going to allow parking then we need to protect the aquifer. Mr. Abbott says in the first year there will be 40 to 80 children and there were 400 children allowed at one time in the past. Mr. Fasanello says what about the employees and Mr. Johnson says it is a 7 to 1 ratio. Mr. Fasanello still wants paving done and Mr. Johnson says the DEP says no. Mr. Fasanello says he called the DEP himself as he does not buy it. He says he had quite a heated discussion with Allison Rescigno from the DEP who issued this decision. He has written a formal letter which he has asked to go to the main office in Boston as he feels Allison is not the last word and

we need to protect the aquifer. Mr. Spillane says he hopes he did not represent that the letter came from the Board and Mr. Fasanello says he can write to them as a Commissioner and feels he has done his part to protect the aquifer and now it is in the hands of the DEP. Mr. Abbott says he was at the farm last Saturday and flag football was going on where there were at least 30 cars there. Mr. Johnson says Mr. Mattson was directly told it could not be paved. Mr. Abbott says we should wait to see how the DEP responds to Mr. Fasanello. Mr. Brown says last Monday's meeting was supposed to be a workshop roundtable and as a Commissioner he has concern for the ratepayer. The Jarvis Farm Committee has been appointed since last May and all of a sudden there is an agreed upon use. Mr. Brown does not believe this was a valid vote and is going to make a motion to rescind. Mr. Spillane says it was a valid vote and it is a done deal, and Mr. Brown abstained and only the prevailing voters can move to reconsider. Mr. Fasanello says he was not at the meeting and therefore can make the motion and he is told he was not in the prevailing vote. Mr. Fasanello says because he was not present at the original meeting he can do this. **Motion Made** by Patrick Fasanello to rescind the vote taken by this Board on November 16, 2015 to allow the Recreation Department to move forward to use Jarvis Farm for a summer program. Second by Tom Brown. Mr. Brown says as an elected Sewer & Water Commissioner he has a fiduciary responsibility and owes it to the ratepayers to be transparent. This was supposed to be a roundtable workshop and there was no mention of a vote to be taken. He feels they were trying to usurp the authority of the Sewer & Water Commission. He would have liked to have seen other options; the committee did not look at other uses such as a solar/windfarm which would benefit the ratepayers and protect the aquifer. Mr. Fasanello says he likes this idea. Mr. Abbott says he voted for this because it was a viable option and the first step is to advertise and if there was no interest shown they would not bother to go forward. Mr. Fasanello says there were no other options. Mr. Abbott responds that others can still use it and we were presented with a sheet of options by the Jarvis Farm Committee that were discussed. Mr. Fasanello says if we vote to rescind we can direct the Town Administrator to check into the viability of a solar farm. Mr. Brown says the meeting on November 16th was not transparent and was pushed through so fast. Mr. Spillane says we move fast around here. There is discussion and Mr. Johnson asks who he felt pushed it through and the answer is the Selectmen, Mr. Shields and Mr. Johnson. He feels it was pre-planned. Mr. Johnson denies this and says Mr. Brown was just outvoted by his own Board. Mr. Abbott says we were trying to give the Recreation Department a viable chance to advertise. Mr. Brown says there are too many questions pending and he says it was pushed through with no explanation to the ratepayers regarding how they would benefit. Mr. Fasanello asks Mr. Johnson where the 80/20 split came from and the response is that this is the standard ratio that the Recreation Department uses. Vote on the motion to rescind 2-3-0. Spillane, Abbott and Turner against. Motion fails.

Motion Made by William Abbott to adjourn. Second by John Spillane. Vote 5-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.