



TOWN OF COHASSET

Sewer Commission

41 Highland Avenue
Cohasset, MA 02025
781-383-4108
Fax 781-383-1561

Sewer Commission Meeting Agenda

DATE: December 30, 2008

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Meeting Room 2B, Town Hall

Meeting called to order @ 6:02 p.m.

Attendance: John Beck, Diane Hindley, Karen Quigley, Sean Cunning, Wayne Sawchuck, Dan Coughlin

1. **Office Business:**

Date of next meeting: January 26, 2008 @ 4:00 pm @ the Water Department

- Approval of minutes from 11/25/2008-motion made to approve, approved unanimously
- Michael Buckley, Director of Finance-Mike Buckley is here to review the fiscal status of the Sewer Commission for the Board. Wayne has prepared a preliminary budget for FY 2010 but would like to know what type of revenues we can anticipate. Debt service and betterments are sep. from our budget. Wayne did include permit fees. We need to identify the new users on the systems. How many people will be connected? Wayne has assumed the same fee structure that we have always had.

The accumulated depreciation is only for North. No surplus has been generated in the Central district. Can the surplus be transferred to the Central from the North? Legally you can. The Commission would like to have one budget for both districts.

The discussion moves to the betterments that are to be assessed to the LH/AA residents. The betterment is over a 20 year period, and we are going to secure a permanent 30 year loan. If you can borrow the money for less can you charge less, it is generally a fixed rate.

2. **Veolia Water:**

John Oatley is here to present. One excursion was noted as an anomaly. All other parameters for the plant were met. This report has gone to DEP as they are monthly by the 15th of each month. They are considering contracting their services with another lab. Same day as Zenon cassettes were being worked on, could that have been the reason. The history of the plant would support this as well. DEP has no concerns regarding this. Filters are performing extremely well. 4.1 inches of rain fell one day in December and there were absolutely NO problems, the water remained only 6 inches above the standby point. The tour on December 11th went fairly well, screening must be better for property owners; pergola seems to be the preferred option, softened by some additional plantings. Photos, design and scenarios will be

prepared and then the neighbors will have a chance to review them with the Board. From an economic standpoint it would be wise to do this work while the contractor is still there.

- a. Monthly Operating Report for November: Attached
- b. WWTP: Noise / Odor / Light Complaints: None
- c. Collection System:
- d. Maintenance Fund:

3. **Enterprise Fund Report:**

Income Statement / Balance Sheet –November: Attached

4. **Connection Status November:**

- North – 273
- Central –572

5. **Correspondence/Communications:**

- Board of Selectmen/Town Manager-2009 Annual Town Meeting & Election
- Town Manager- Annual Town Reports for 2008 due on January 12, 2009-John Beck
- Town Manager-Fiscal 2010 Budget-Wayne Sawchuck will take on this responsibility

6. **Old Business:**

7. **New Business:**

- 31 Pond Street-Schooner Realty Trust

Water line must be shown and what are you using for materials. Dan Coughlin will review the plan with builder Bob McGlone.

- Lots 43A, 41&42 Howe Road-Thomas Quirk

The discussion opens regarding the vacant lot list for North Cohasset and the intermunicipal agreement between the towns of Cohasset, Hull and Hingham. The ACEC rule is discussed. In recent years a capacity evaluation had been made and based upon availability and the Second Amended Final Judgment, we were able to add Deep Run and Rust Way to the LH/AA expansion. Once these homes are connected we will have exhausted the available capacity. The expansion is confined to existing pollution sources (houses), not in terms of vacant lots or unimproved lots.

The intermunicipal agreement we have is for 80,000 gpd to go to Hull. We determine capacity by actual flows from water meter readings, we use all consumption data. We have segregated irrigation lines and second water meters. There has been conjecture by both Hingham and Hull that we are using more flow than what is allotted so we are installing a flow meter to evaluate more accurately. The flow meter should be installed and data should be available by spring 2009. At this point and juncture there is no available capacity. John Beck recommends looking at a law suit involving Jerusalem Road estates, a superior court decision. We are also bound by the judgment that if there is any additional capacity that we sewer the Old Coach area and existing pollution sources prior to anywhere else.

The applications are on record but these lots have been on the current vacant lot list since 1999.

8. **Coughlin Environmental Services:**

9. **Abatement Requests:**

- 8 Black Rock Road-Fox

Approved unanimously.

- 49 Oak Street-Haber

Mr. Haber is here to represent himself. He just learned about the 2nd water meter for the first time this year. Everyone waters their yards and gardens; he suggests billing at 80% of the total consumption for the summer months as opposed to 100%. He uses his own water collection system. Beck strongly recommends getting a 2nd water meter for all sewer users. The state has issued policies to do water conservation efforts as opposed to recommending 2nd water meters. Sawchuck questions if there are any leaks, etc, the water consumption seems large. Sawchuck recommends looking at the meter itself, shut valve off at the house and check for the flow. Motion is made for approval.

- 84 Old Pasture Road-Kenealy

Approved unanimously.

- 23 Pond Street-Snyder

Wait until the next meter reading to see if there is evidence of a leak, he should start investigating. Receipt for lawn installation, etc.

- 14 Summer Street-McSweeney

Approved unanimously, must install 2nd water meter.

10. **Connection fees due:**

- 100 Pleasant Street (Lots 11 and 12), Stevens Development Group: \$18,435.88 due on or before March 3, 2009

11. **Open Discussion:**

- Installation requirement questions-postponed until next month's joint meeting with the Water Dept.

- 25 Ripley Road- Will Charles

For a 40 B project the ZBA is a permitting authority not the Sewer Commission. We have no application in front of us. The property is not in the sewer district. We will be responsive to any questions the ZBA has for us. Our official comment has been made in writing.

If our point of view or position has changed the ZBA would like to be notified.

- There are some question regarding the air vents on Jerusalem Lane, Dan Coughlin elaborates on placement and concerns about the vents. Specifically pressure sewer vents, the locations that were picked are less obtrusive than others. These are all private streets so easements are obtained for placements. On the cul de sac, all the residents have been solicited for an opinion. 3 of the 5 people have come to some conclusion of where the preferred location would be. The air release man hole would be located behind a pine tree. It is suggested to try and put it near a utility poles or vegetation to make sure it is unobtrusive. The residents are invited to speak about the location: They are in that location now and would like to finish up the work. General consensus is desired. They all have utility rights in the street so only one person is needed to determine the location of the vent.

- If they are working on sewer and the construction company hits an unmarked water line it is the responsibility of the sewer dept. We are talking about approximately \$30,000 overall which isn't much. The discussion is about the fairness of the two commissions sharing the cost of any reimbursements that the construction company is requesting. Is this just for water work or are we being billed if a gas line is struck too. The approach seems to be as long as it doesn't get out of hand...
- Joint meeting: Installation requirements, Dan will put a summation together and circulate it to gather an opinion from the Commission.
- Dan Coughlin brings an updated budget for the LH/AA& North Cohasset Sewer Service Extension.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:26