



TOWN OF COHASSET

Sewer Commission

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Sewer Commission Meeting Agenda

DATE: August 26, 2008

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Meeting Room 2B, Town Hall

Meeting called to order @ 6:08 p.m.

Attendance: John Beck, Sean Cunning, Wayne Sawchuck, Dan Coughlin, Dick Nye, Diane Hindley

1. **Office Business:**

Date of next meeting: September 30, 2008 @ 6:00 p.m.

- Change in office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 8:30-3:30 Friday 8:30-1
Approved unanimously, Sean will address the increase in the rate of pay to Bill Griffin.

2. **Veolia Water:**

- a. Monthly Operating Report for July: Attached
- b. WWTP: Noise / Odor / Light Complaints: None
- c. Collection System:
- d. Maintenance Fund: 423 under budget this month

Violation in the permit of August 4, fecal coli form, there is no rhyme or reason. Dick Nye has done a lot of research and protocol was followed as usual, cannot figure out why? Usage has gone up because of the rain.

2 cassettes went in today, we still have not received the right equipment, they sent us the wrong equipment but the correct stuff is readily available.

Zenon has complied with everything even before they bid the contract; there is a continuous change of personnel. Some of the piping we did get in needed to be modified.

- Outstanding water bills from the WWTP have been adjusted and resolved. Can we evaluate the grinder pump for their sewer use at the water plant? The only way to get some sort of number is to get a trip count of the grinder pump. Dick Nye will try to get readings from his laptop. Some of the water may be tight tanked. Quarterly readings can be done, look back to 2000 for billing sewer to the Water Department.

Sean brings up the abutters (Joe Coggins), his dissatisfaction with the chemical feed sheds and the placement of them on their property. Dick Nye says that there is room for them inside the building, any time we go outside the footprint of the building the abutters should be notified.

3. **Enterprise Fund Report:**
Income Statement / Balance Sheet –July: Not available
 4. **Connection Status July:**
 - North – 269
 - Central –810
 5. **Correspondence/Communications:**
 - 6 Deep Run, Michael Stevens: Water is not making it into the newly placed catch basins. Water is not getting to the storm drains. A berm is suggested and it is noted that this is not the final paving there is still work to be done. Coughlin suggests that maybe some temporary berm work may help the issue. Mr. Stevens suggest the Cape Cod style berm as it seems to work the best in this area. Coughlin questions a pre-existing condition. Grates will be changed out in the spring.
 - Street opening permit: Bow Street from Utility Pole no. 2-7
The name of the contractor is Matthews Electric; the paving is being delayed due to this work and must be completed by September 15.
 6. **Old Business:**
 7. **New Business:**
 - 133 Beach Street, Herzfelder
Applications should go before the resident engineer, standardized drawings of an as built must be included. This prompts some discussion about revising the application.
 - 10 Little Harbor Road, Sherbrook
As long as the valve stays closed, they could at least get this service complete and probably make them do a pressure test.
 - 100 Pleasant Street, Map 39 Plot 28
96 Pleasant Street, Paul Laguelle is here to gather some preliminary information regarding two lots located at 100 Pleasant Street that he feels were overlooked when connections were distributed. A betterment has never been assessed for the additional properties. The lots were deeded before zoning. Beck points out that although there is no capacity available now we are planning on doing an evaluation later this year. An application needs to be filled then the Board will review.
 - 475 and 481 Jerusalem Road- Service connections
If the main was active and they want to connect up there is no reason to prevent them from connecting. The two properties are authorized to connect when the main is active and they fill out the applications complete with the required components of the application. Dan Coughlin recommends that we assess them a preliminary betterment of \$25k and then add on when final paving cost are calculated. Deep Run and Rust Way will be given a preliminary betterment as well. We will not have final paving costs until next year. To summarize, when we activate we should give these people a preliminary betterment they will apply for a connection and connect at any time. A motion is made to allow 481 and 475 Jerusalem Road to connect, must recommend the betterment assessment for Deep Run and Rust Way. Motion is made to connect 481 and 475 to the municipal system, we will recommend to the assessors to commit the betterment of \$25k per property as a preliminary betterment. The vote is unanimous.
- Sean brings up additional stubs in the LH district wanted in the Rob Ralston has to come to the Commission to claim his property rights to that.

8. Coughlin Environmental Services:

There is discussion of the wall failure at Jerusalem Road. The fall of the wall is not the fault of the sewer work. The wall was probably at least 100 years old with no cement at all. The Sewer Commission and Water Commission will ask for an unspecified appropriation at Town Meeting. The amount will be determined once the reconstruction project is assessed.

United Water is the consulting firm that Dan retained to review the operation of the Veolia plant and the findings are quite favorable.

9. Abatement Requests:

- 31 Pond Street, Schooner Realty Trust-approved
- 27 Windy Hill, Lombardy-approved

10. Connection fees due:

11. Open Discussion:

Some residents are here to ask questions about the drainage on Beach Street but are told that is an issue that must be addressed with the Selectmen not the Sewer Commission.

Barbara Powers would like to know what discharge will be going over her property; the only thing they are draining is the wetland area.

Beck brings up a request from the chairman of the Water Commission (Glenn Pratt) to come up with funds to install a toilet at the Beechwood ballpark. The Sewer Commission would like to help but since we operate from an Enterprise Fund, Mr. Beck feels it would be irresponsible to do so. Although they are willing to entertain asking the construction company, LMH, if they would be willing to help out for this community service project.

There is continued discussion regarding the efforts to find any I/I in and around the WWTP. The residents that have been approached to sign a permanent easement have declined this however the Cohasset Historical Society may be willing to do so. The work is described as follows: there will be two test pits and then test and seal each one of the clay pipes to record the readings and get an estimate to help show the neighbors this rationale. And at the same time we can replace the lines at the Cohasset Historical Society. The Historical Society will most likely sign a permanent easement but how do we allocate these costs, individual costs must be less than \$5000 according to the Town Manager. If the cost will be over \$25k we have to go out to public bid. Another option to the permanent easement is a license agreement between the Town of Cohasset and the resident. Town Counsel is looking into this option for the Sewer Commission. Town Counsel will draw up a license agreement, an example for us to review at the next meeting. The owner of the property could revoke the license agreement at any time, which could present an issue. The chances of this happening are slim; the property owner would in effect be condemning their own house. We are in a self imposed moratorium because of capacity not a state imposed one.

Dan Coughlin would also recommend there should be an I/I fee assessed to every sewer user in a separate account, every gallon you give away they contribute to the I/I account. A 5/1 contribution.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:20