



TOWN OF COHASSET

Sewer Commission

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Sewer Commission Meeting Agenda

DATE: Tuesday, December 28, 2010

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Basement Meeting Room, Town Hall

Meeting called to order @ 6:03 p.m.

Attendance: John Beck, Wayne Sawchuk, Jim Dow, Dan Coughlin, Diane Hindley

1. **Office Business:**

Date of next meeting: Thursday, January 27, 2011 @ 6:00 p.m.

Drain Layer License approval:

- EG Excavating, Eric Gondveer-approved
- ADH Contracting, Al Hashem-approved
- Annual Town Report due by January 14, 2011-John Beck will complete

2. **Veolia Water:**

- a. Monthly Operating Report for October & November: mailed electronically to Commission
- b. WWTP: Noise / Odor / Light Complaints:
- c. Collection System: during the blizzard the plant weathered well; all the pump stations maintained normal operations, increased flow up to 487k gallons, has never seen that in a snow storm, relates it to the tides, the I/I issue still continues.
- d. Maintenance Fund:
- e. Additional Veolia business: Contract end date 12/31/2010 @ 12:00 p.m.
 - Many thanks to Veolia for their service, dedication and professionalism for the numerous years they have served the Town of Cohasset. Noted as a sad day in many ways, due to the long relationship with Veolia and the excellent operating experience they brought with them especially with John Oatley, Ken Henrique, and Yvonne Albreicht. John Oatley assures the Commission that they are fully prepared to make the transition on Friday @ noon. All of the generators are squared away and the calibrations are complete. Ken suggests that United Water act on the sludge pump. The plant itself is in good shape. There is no functional waste pump as of now, but there is a pump in the cellar of the house, the sump pumps that are in possession are not strong enough.
 - Welcome United Water-the cooperation from Veolia has been outstanding during the transition. John Marcin, Area Manager, is the person responsible for this project going forward; Steve Cushing is the Project Manager and Joe Hughes is the Lead Operator for the Cohasset WWTP. John Marcin has a high level of confidence that United Water will do a super job for the Town of Cohasset. Mark Cataldo, formerly of

Clean Harbors will be joining the Cohasset team on January 17th in order to give adequate notice to his current employer; he is a certified Grade 7 operator. The first week a whole bunch of people will be here to assist during the first week of transition. There will be another half time person involved as listed on the handout, all the staff are members of Steve Cushing's team. Coverage on Saturday and Sunday will be for four hours. Wendy Reed, Project Manager, is the in house guru on membrane treatment plants and has written procedures how to operate such systems. John Beck would like her to visit the plant to understand the operation. Ken Henrique has gone over the "overflow pipe" procedure with Joe Hughes. The current SOP covers this but could use some updated revisions. John's main involvement will be with the contract and primarily the collection system. Beck explains how sensitive we are to the abutters of the WWTP and the "hypersensitivity" to the overflow possibilities. John Marcin responds that with the overflow pipe in place the plant should never overflow. John Oatley urges United Water to pay attention to the foam control, which is the condition that is the activated by excess flow. United Water will reprogram all of the alarms and update the emergency numbers. Training has been ongoing and was able to witness a shut down with one of the membranes which was good field experience, went through the high SOP and went to the landfill, produced a whole bunch of checklists; Joe Hughes has been doing "rounds" in the plant with Ken.

John Marcin notified the DEP regarding the change in operations at the plant. He will forward the new, detailed staffing plan including the hours of coverage. Coughlin is expecting feedback from the DEP within a month. Beck makes a motion to approve the staffing plan and for it to be sent to the DEP. The motion carries and the vote is unanimous.

3. **Enterprise Fund Report:**

- Income Statement / Balance Sheet–**November**: requested reports but have not received
- FY2011 Commitment 2

4. **Connection Status November:** (billable accounts)

- North – 281
- Central –884
- New Little Harbor permits issued: 167

5. **Correspondence/Communications:**

- 93 Black Rock Road; David Lucier: inquiry to opt out of the Town Owned Grinder Pump program by paying for his own replacement pump when the time comes and paying for repairs and maintenance on his own. Resident's may have the choice to opt out of the Town Owned Grinder Pump Program but the town will have final approval on any pump replacements. The board would like town counsel to review this possibility before a final decision. Mr. Lucier asks for abatement to the payment already made. Chairman Beck denies this request based upon the fact that the warranty on the existing pump expired in 2009 and the town has been paying for all repairs and maintenance up until the first quarter of FY2011.

- 550 Jerusalem Road; Steve Pissaro: inquiry to be reimbursed for expenses paid to pump out septic tank; inquiry to replace two pumps with one new pump and not be charged the 2 quarterly fees associated with the Town Owned Grinder Pump program-the system design requires two pumps with the tank, the pump chamber is the responsibility of the property owner to pay for and maintain. A motion is made to deny both requests. The motion carries and the vote is unanimous.
- 60 Reservoir Road; Elsa Miller: requesting relief from continued sewer odor-so noted.

6. **Old Business:**

- 14 Haystack Lane, 35 Jerusalem Road Drive, 46 Jerusalem Road Drive; Mr. William Golden represented by Atty. Henderson: request to grant sewer connection-Richard Henderson for Bill Golden, applicant, is still confused. The lots in question have been in existence since 1950 and the logic behind the delineation is confusing since all flow goes to the same plant. Henderson points out that the board just approved two connections for lots that were not even in existence and have not been approved as Form A lots yet. When the LH /Atlantic Avenue district was set up and authorized by town meeting the language was very specific: Only lots with existing pollution sources (dwellings) were allocated sewer connection. The basis for constructing the collection system and the expansion at the WWTP was to accommodate every bit of additional capacity calculated using flow rates determined by the DEP. Theoretically; there is no excess capacity available. Until we have fully connected everyone in that district we cannot consider connect vacant lots hence the waiting list on a first come first serve basis. The basis for the dispute is that the pipe that connects the LH people to the plant is the same pipe that connects to the Central district. Henderson understands the assessment for each unit, Henderson has clients who do not want the additional sewer connections, i.e.: 30 Jerusalem Road. Abated betterments represent loss of revenue to the town, revenue necessary to repay the loan note. Henderson suggests the board should look at it from a financial standpoint; it may be the right thing to do. Sawchuk concurs. From an environmental standpoint, there are certain orders that stipulate smart growth through SRF. The DEP did not want to see growth on barrier beaches and environmentally sensitive areas. Sawchuk recognizes that Golden's lots are far away from any beaches and are mostly ledge therefore not an environmentally sensitive area. Coughlin would like to check with the state first before making any decision. Chairman Beck is willing to entertain the premise that if betterment is abated, it is our obligation to offer the available edu to a vacant lot according to the vacant lot list. Four betterment abatement requests received approval at the meeting last month and one is on the agenda for this evening. One edu was allocated to 142/144 Atlantic Avenue. This property was on the original list for allocated sewer connections but there were delays due to easement issues that have since been resolved. This leaves 3 edu's because of abated betterments. Atty. Henderson asks if the board will send letters offering connection right away. Sawchuk would like to wait until the abatement period for assessed betterments is over before offering any available connections. The deadline for abatement request is 6 months from the date of issue. In a couple of months, we will have a much greater comfort level offering these available edu's. The board would like to look at the list later on in the meeting according. Beck agrees with the principal but suggests taking into account later in the

meeting. Atty. Henderson requests to put this item on the agenda again next month. So noted.

- 465 Jerusalem Road; RAJ, LLC represented by Atty. Henderson: request to reimburse sewer construction expenses—contract for reimbursement for the lesser of the cost of the assessed betterment and be paid for the lesser of the cost of 4 betterments. The owner will be assessed 2 edu's for her property plus the two additional properties 481 & 475 Jerusalem Road.
- 142 & 144 Atlantic Avenue (aka 75 Meadow Lane); Steven Ross: betterment assessment/connection fee for single edu, credit for construction, deed restriction for single service connection to serve two dwellings, well water-covenant should be changed to NO rental etc., Ross will change language and send it back to the Sewer Commission office once it is recorded. The board would only agree to contribute towards cost of construction if the parcel had more than one connection. The town contract will stop at one connection, the stub is where it is and there will be no contribution, now he is not unlike anyone else with one single service. The well will require a water meter for billing purposes but must go to the Water Department for this.
- 713 Jerusalem Road; Ms. Peggy Schroeder: seeking approval to connect to municipal sewer, application has been pending since 10/02/2008—approve connection immediately unanimously, fee will be assessed at equal to single edu betterment in the new LH district. The motion carries and the vote is unanimous. Assessment differs from 559 Jerusalem Road because it was an existing lot that was overlooked in the original expansion.

7. **New Business:**

- 98 Howard Gleason Road, Adelaide Pratt: request to grant sewer connections to two vacant lots yet to be created from an 8.5 acre parcel; both lots were approved to be added to the vacant lot wait list in the Central district at the last meeting (11/16/2010) for when capacity becomes available.
Atty. Charles Humphreys confirms that he is on record and that he is here on behalf of Mr. Norbert Herman, who is currently under contract to purchase the property owned by the Adelaide Pratt Trust at 98 Howard Gleason Road. Currently, a small house exists in the westerly portion of the lot that identified as Lot 1; this house is connected to the municipal sewer. In addition, 92 Howard Gleason Road is connected to the municipal sewer. Atty. Humphrey's is requesting two additional sewer connections to serve Lots 2 & 3. Under the current purchase and sale agreement, it is subject to obtaining a perc test or sewer connection. The preferred option would be the sewer connections. The lots identified are Form A lots that could be a subdivision, with a subdivision road and many more lots but the intent is to divide this parcel into three lots. Perc tests have not been performed as of yet but if that becomes necessary it would be necessary to really rip the land apart due to the amount of ledge. Atty. Humphreys believes it would be appropriate to be granted sewer connections and that the land is located in the original 1972 Central Sewer District, this is not part of the Atlantic Avenue district. The lots share a common driveway but the location of the sewer line is yet to be determined. John Beck recuses himself due to personal relationship with Mr. Herman. Dan Coughlin thinks granting these two connections would be consistent with other expansions in the Central District and compares it the allocation of connections to large properties that have requested an increase of capacity. If they connect via Howard Gleason

Road, it is part of the Central District, and we have capacity allocation for that. There is a clear definition that this parcel is not part of the LH District. Member Sawchuk makes a motion to approve concept plan, subject to approval by the Planning Board, for two edu's, the fee will be assessed at \$15,000 per connection once application is received, site plan is reviewed and approved with site plan. The approval is conditional for 60 days. Motion carries and the vote is unanimous.

8. **Coughlin Environmental Services:**

- Working diligently on the transition between United and Veolia, creating the tie card sheets will be funded through the extended as built under the construction project.

9. **Sewer Service Application for Extension:**

- 3 Jerusalem Lane; Louis R. Miscioscia
- 17 Red Gate Lane; Peter & Mary Kay Burnett
- 67 Gammons Road; Diana Davis Kornet

A motion is made to offer a six-month extension from February 15th to all homes not yet connected in the LH district. The motion carries and the vote is unanimous.

10. **Abatement Requests:**

- 796 Jerusalem Road, Mary Hunnewell: Requesting abatement of assessed quarterly fee and removal from the program- the property already has E-One pump, the installation date was in 2006 although it is not clear who the installer was. It was not Rosano Davis. Coughlin suggests a release of the easement from Lou Ross (town counsel), the original easement will be forwarded for his review. Motion is made for conditional approval to remove this property from the program and approve abatement request. The motion carries and the vote is unanimous.
- 26 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Norman: assessed for two grinder pumps incorrectly, one pump is located at this address and the other is located at 26A Atlantic Avenue-Motion is made to approve abatement. Motion carries and the vote is unanimous.
- 702 Jerusalem Road, Mario Dominguez: E-One grinder pump on premise; Interon startup date is 4/08/2005; warranty expired 11/12/2009- Motion is made for conditional approval to remove this property from the program and approve abatement request. The motion carries and the vote is unanimous.
- 61 Hull Street, Sam Hassan: requesting abatement of assessed quarterly fee and be removed from the program. Startup date of 8/12/2005; warranty expired 11/12/2009- for warranty info, pending conditional approval, Sawchuk wants to explain that he can opt out of the system, there is no warranty expresser implied. Warranty commenced the time of the original installation. Postponed until next meeting and more information is gathered.
- 31 Atlantic Avenue, Raina Elfner: requesting abatement of assessed quarterly fee and removal from the program until her warranty expires on 5/12/2011. – A motion is made to approve the abatement request and removal from the program. The quarterly fee will be assessed starting May 12, 2011.
- 142 Border Street, Arthur Avila-ask Mr. Avila to attend our next meeting to explain the meter reads, so noted.
- 14 Summer Street, Matt McSweeney-Motion is made for approval. Motion carries and the vote is unanimous.

- 698C Jerusalem Road, Catherine Wolfe- Motion is made for approval. Motion carries and the vote is unanimous.
- 68 Pond Street, John Vanderpool- Motion is made for approval. Motion carries and the vote is unanimous.
- 130 Linden Drive, Peter & Kerry O'Keefe- Motion is made for approval. Motion carries and the vote is unanimous.
- 345 Forest Avenue, Polly Halloran- Motion is made for approval. Motion carries and the vote is unanimous.
- 216 Atlantic Avenue, Katherine Perkins-betterment abatement request revisited after denial last month; property owner appealed to the Norfolk County Commissioner and that office requested that we hear Ms. Perkins appeal again based on new information-motion to approve betterment abatement; the motion carries unanimously with the condition of a deed restriction recording.

11. Connection fees due:

12. Open discussion:

Meeting adjourned:

Motion to adjourn @ 9:15