



TOWN OF COHASSET

Sewer Commission

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Sewer Commission Meeting Agenda

DATE: October 29, 2007

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Meeting Room 2B, Town Hall

Meeting called to order @ pm.: 6:06 pm

Attendance: Ray Kasperowicz, Sean Cunning, Diane Hindley, Dan Coughlin, John Beck

1. **Office Business:**

Date of next meeting: Monday, November 26, 2007 @ 6:00 pm

2. **Veolia Water:**

a. Monthly Operating Report for September: Attached; everything looks good.

b. WWTP: Noise / Odor / Light Complaints: None.

The DPW put a STOP sign at the end of the driveway for the safety of pedestrians walking on the sidewalk

c. Collection System:

d. Maintenance Fund: The balance is \$3,000 under budget through the end of September, based on \$1500 per month.

The affluent pumps are brought up, the three that are going to be replaced. Dick says that Dan Coughlin and the manufacturer's rep are handling this. Dick Nye discussed the membrane repairs; the third one is taking a long time. He has found broken strands, pinholes, etc. The suggestion is to do repairs as recommended by Zenon. Dick Nye continues to investigate solutions to repair the membranes. The warranty is an 8 year prorated one. Ray would like to know if we can get a credit for these membranes, at least a percentage. Ray thinks that Dick Nye could possibly work a deal, or get some of the cassettes from another plant because they are replacing their B membranes and upgrading. Dick suggests that we just pay for the shipping costs. We are currently paying Zenon approximately \$16,000 annually to consult with Dick. They show up twice a year, but they are available 24/7 to advise Dick when necessary. Ray wants to have someone from the Board contact Zenon. Dick would like to continue to do what he is doing by plugging up the holes; he wants to do all that we can do. Dick Nye feels that he should be done by mid next week to plug all the holes. We currently have 8 original A's, 4 B's but we will be getting C's. We are getting all new ones with the Little Harbor Expansion.

3. **Enterprise Fund Report:**

Income Statement / Balance Sheet – September: Attached

There is discussion of how we can increase revenues for the Sewer enterprise fund.

4. **Connection Status September:** No new connections

- North – 269
- Central –809

5. **Correspondence/Communications:**

- Clearwater Recovery/Stephen B. Nelson

There is discussion of putting the job out to bid. The contract with Veolia ends Dec. 31, 2007 with 2 three year options to extend the contract. Is it realistic to analyze how much it would cost to hire Dick Nye as an employee of the Town of Cohasset? Ray will pursue this.

- 650-659 CJC Hwy/Nadine Ronan, Trustee

There is no capacity available. It is outside our currently designated district, we have no intentions of sewerage that area in the near future.

- Review of “Declaration of Restrictive Covenants”

The Sewer Commission requests that a sketch should be attached to the covenant so that there is no question as to what structure the connection extension is going to.

We should add to the covenant that the property is restricted to seasonal use. The key to this is that we do not want this separate dwelling to be used as a permanent residence. The structure should be limited to a six month period of time. The property cannot be used as a permanent dwelling. Should a routine be developed by analyzing the usage for these properties through the billing? Dan suggests that we would have to develop guidance stating consequences to the misuse of the property. Possible surcharges could exist. The dwelling could be separately metered. If it's less than a half an edu for the year, we don't care. If we get more of these then it may make a difference. We should require a second meter so that they are responsible to submit the numbers from the meter. The whole purpose is to reduce the impact at the WWTP. The usage is limited to one half an edu over a year's period of time. It is a movable number. Annual consumption is 220 gpd across town. Not to exceed 110 gpd, with an annual report; we do not assess for anything less than a half an edu. We could send an annual letter to request readings from the homeowner. If they consume less than 110 gpd we shouldn't worry about it. The Commission wants to add some language to the covenant. Ray will call Scituate to see if there is anything they have that is similar to this. We need to speak with a community that has restricted flow. This will go on the agenda for next month.

6. **Old Business:**

- 30 Parker Ave-Request by Gary Vanderweil to enforce connection

We can put a lien on his property, we have penalty structures. We can send him fines to get his attention. Is he paying his betterment? It was originally a barn that was converted. The Commission is requesting that Diane call to start the inquiry process. We need to check if he has a Title 5 approved system.

- 792A Jerusalem Road-Cifrino

So noted.

7. **New Business:**

- ZBA Appeal of the Staging Area:

The staging area is discussed. The meeting with the ZBA is discussed. The contract language is discussed regarding the choice of the staging area and how the location of the staging area was determined. Wheelwright Park is discussed as a location, yet the park has

been overused and the residents in that area have already dealt with many municipal projects.

- John Beck is going to appear on the Around Town talk show to do a public service message.
- The new construction schedule is available. It will be posted on the website and in the Mariner. John Beck will do a Little Harbor Project article update for the Mariner every two weeks.
- Deep Run/Rust Way:

We have no easement and no rights to the Riley property. Listen to the Tape 2 for this.

- Tina Watson may pay for the connections and try to recoup that in the sale of her property. There is discussion of how to refund the money if the edu's are not needed. If it is within the same fiscal year the money can be returned. Otherwise, it will have to go to Town Meeting.

8. **Coughlin Environmental Services:**

- Capital Budget info request

This information is not available right now. The project will be complete in 2009. The Sewer Commission would like to be able to give a complete, cohesive report to the whole town. What is the total debt? Our number will be zero for now. Down the road we may want to look at some improvements for the future. Everything seems to be in good shape for now. RK suggest to throw in a number as a contingency amount, maybe \$100k for example.

- Letter to abutters of staging area

Dan would like to wait until the ZBA meeting and then send a letter to all the abutters.

- Water quality testing of inner Little Harbor and Little Harbor

Since we are in the process of constructing the sewer system, the intent is to improve Little Harbor. Should we do a base line now and then after the project is complete to compare the results? This should be done during the warm weather season when growing occurs. There would have to be three days worth of testing. Dan estimates that this could cost approximately \$10,000 for testing. This should be done in May, July and September. It would be nice see what difference the project will make. Testing would be done after a wet weather event. The ideal condition would be seven dry days then a half an inch of rain. The testing should be a project cost but it would be difficult to spend money on the project after it is complete. A change order for \$20,000 is suggested so we can test after everyone is connected.

- WWTP progress

Work has commenced and bypass pipe will be going in shortly. The UV chamber should be up and running soon. Construction will begin soon. A lot of construction won't happen until the membranes get there, probably next spring.

- Collection system progress

Water work is being done first. After we pull the bypass, sewer work will commence in spring. The bypass pipe needs to be pulled if the temp gets to freezing for more than a consecutive hour. As long as the water is running it shouldn't be an issue. November 15th was typically the last day to pull the bypass but the weather is the determinant factor.

There was a gas line break on Friday and a water line break today. They are flushing the main right now. There was an extra pipe (gas) they had capped it and shut it off at the main. There

were two lines going down the driveway. The line was not marked. In the same exact area they were digging today and hit a water main that was not marked, it was off by at least 6 feet.

The contractor was mainly concerned with the loss of time. Should we absorb the cost or try to recover the cost from the respective utilities? The gas company would charge us the same exact thing if they hit one of our lines, they would charge us for everything, details, loss of time etc. RK wants any of these events memorialized and we should try to recoup the losses immediately. This was an excavation to install a water valve and therefore should be coordinated and processed by the Water Dept. This was supervised by Water Dept personnel, it is DC suggestion that the Water Dept should respond to this. DC can still smell gas on Nichols Rd. He continues to document everything and send it to the reps, Hedlund and the Town Manager. They could not isolate this gas line. There were no isolation valves available; the gas company should go out and exercise those valves. John Beck wants this to be a high priority item. Unless there is good documentation this is a significant huge safety issue.

There was an I/I leak found between Elm and Brook and South Main. The clay pipe should be replaced. The leak was found through flow monitoring and the current I/I problem. The connections were what was leaking. We need a contractor to give us an estimate. It may not be an excavation. Approximately 43,000 gpd is leaking from that. This is good news. Pump station data has been analyzed. We still have significant influence in the cove and harbor area. We are looking at more clay pipe in and around the Border Street area.

9. Open Discussion:

- Do we need an article for Special Town Meeting? Dan doesn't seem to think
- The discussion as to where we stand with the \$100,000 the town approved a couple of years ago to locate a possible satellite treatment location.. DC says that we have hit a road block this summer relative to trying to gain access to lots to do testing. Access was denied. There has been no physical testing due to this. Lots have been identified, to take it to the next stop we need to physically dig the test holes. Ray would like to be prepared to answer questions that may arise at Special Town Meeting, he would like some sort of report written. There should be a feasibility report prepared. The average person might be looking for answers as to how the money has been spent. Dan Coughlin responds that the \$60k was spent doing exactly what is needed to identify possible satellite locations. This is detailed in the billings from Coughlin Environmental Services. Ray feels strongly that we need a report, otherwise one of the Commissioners need to be able to respond to any questions. Dan Coughlin will provide an interim report to the Commission.
 - Odor complaints from a resident on Pleasant Street. Dan suggests surging the pipes several times a day. Dick Nye responds that he did do one surge; this could result in an odor. There are no odors coming from either station. The odor is coming from the end of the force main. DC suggests throwing a fire hose in the pipe to move the solids out of the system. Dick Nye suggests jetting it. DC says it would be difficult to jet or put in a relief line in while we drain the force main. Dick Nye will open the manhole and turn both pumps on and see what comes out of it.
 - The Greek Church needs to connect. Gary Vanderweil gave them a pass during that time of construction. Sean Cunning will draft a letter to the church but he would like an update as to where they stand on the connection process. The request is made to supply Sean with the current status. So noted.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:52