



TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT
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**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2019**

WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mr. Glen S. Searle, Chairman
Mr. Scott Ellis, Commissioner
Mr. Sean E. Murphy, Commissioner

EWWD STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. David Thompson, Facilities Manager
Mrs. Pia Webster, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ms. June D. Ameen, Resident, 13 Duarte Circle
Mr. Henry R. Fauteux, Resident, 9 Duarte Circle
Mr. E. Douglas Sederholm, Attorney, Miller Sederholm Law Office

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 21, 2019, at a special time – 3:00 p.m. – at a special location, in the Board Room on the second floor of the Edgartown Public Library, 26 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, Mass. At 3:04 p.m. Chairman Glen S. Searle called the meeting to order. Also present from the Board were Waste Water Commissioners Scott Ellis and Sean E. Murphy.

OLD BUSINESS:

**REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF REQUESTS FOR
SEWER LINE EXTENSION FOR DUARTE CIRCLE.**

After conferring with Commissioners Ellis and Murphy, Chairman Searle declared there was no need to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Murphy confirmed with Chairman Searle and Commissioner Ellis that they had received and reviewed their copies of the document titled “Decision Under Article X of the Sewer Rules and Regulations Re: Proposed Sewer Extensions for Duarte Circle, Edgartown, MA” (“the Decision”). This Decision, he said, was similar to the draft they had looked at in their Executive Session of February 13. The most significant difference, for him, was the addition of the language in Condition 9 on page 6: “Construction shall not commence until all conditions set out herein have been satisfied.”

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve the Decision, as written, dated February 21, 2019, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board members signed the Decision. For the benefit of the Duarte Circle Homeowner Group members present, as well as their attorney, Commissioner Murphy summarized the Conditions of the Decision.

With regard to Condition 8, which allowed the property owners in the Homeowner Group to offer “reasonable input ... as to the optimal placement of the laterals and valves for each property,” Facilities Manager David Thompson explained how the property owner could drive in a stake to indicate where the lateral was to intersect the property line. Expanding on this point in response to a query from E. Douglas Sederholm, attorney for the Homeowner Group, Mr. Thompson said that the contractor would be directional-drilling the line and the lateral would have to intersect a clear area and not, say, an old oak tree or a koi pond.

Mr. Sederholm also had questions regarding the process to determine the fair and reasonable cost for connection to the sewer line based on potentially eight connections. Commissioner Murphy said that the bills submitted by Patrick W. Kager and Catherine L. Clairmont (“the Kagers”) would be certified and that the Commission would determine the cost after notification and a public meeting on the matter. Mr. Sederholm verified with Commissioner Murphy that once the fair and reasonable cost was determined, then those who abutted the line could either pay that cost or not, according to the schedule set out in the Decision.

June D. Ameen of 13 Duarte Circle confirmed with Mr. Thompson and Commissioner Murphy that Mr. Kager and Ms. Clairmont would be installing eight laterals and eight valves, as shown on the plan prepared for the Kagers by Richard J. Barbini of Schofield, Barbini & Hoehn.

A discussion ensued regarding the turning over of the line to the Town. Under Condition 2, until a second connection or grinder pump station was connected to the line, Mr. Kager and Ms. Clairmont were responsible for maintenance of the sewer extension; thereafter, the Waste Water Department would be.

Mr. Sederholm said he appreciated that the Commissioners had listened to both sides and had tried to be fair.

NEW BUSINESS:

UPDATE: FEB 20, 2019 FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING – RESERVE FUND REQUEST, SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE.

Mr. Thompson related that he and the Chairman had not stayed for the discussion on the STM Article for \$16,288.00, since they had been told it was not necessary; they assumed it had gone through. Mr. Thompson explained that the Article amount was the total spent on the Department of Labor Standards Unfunded Mandate, which was “an absolutely unanticipated expense.” Administrative Assistant Pia Webster confirmed with the Facilities Manager that the Department would be spending \$16,000 from its Equip Repair Replace Upgrade (ERRU) Account on the Donaldbin Close project, with another \$13,000 coming from the Reserve Fund, which would be transferred into the ERRU Account.

REPORT: WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT VACATION BUYBACKS.

The Facilities Manager informed the Board that he and Mrs. Webster were each buying back one week (five days) of vacation time from the Town.

UPDATE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ITEMS; MEETING WITH T&B.

Mr. Thompson went through the printed synopsis of his meeting on February 18 with Tighe & Bond engineer Ian Catlow during which the two had discussed the Department's Capital Improvement Program (CIP). To Mr. Thompson's synopsis Mr. Catlow had added his own comments, plus some probable bid and start dates.

The **Dunham Road Pump Station Upgrade**, related Mr. Thompson, entailed working out how to configure aboveground a new generator and fuel tank, the older versions of which were currently underground. With a marsh across the street, a Notice of Intent would be filed with the EPA, at the same time checking in with the Conservation Commission. In addition, the station lay in the Historic District. The old diesel tank would have to be removed.

The **Chase Road Pump Station Upgrade** project, continued the Facilities Manager, had been pushed up from several years down the road. During the recent electrical problems, he had discovered that the station's electronics were no longer supported by Siemens as of 2017. The good news was that the Scope of Work was similar to the one for the Dunham Road Upgrade, and Mr. Thompson had put this project in the same contract. There was also an underground fuel tank to be removed from this site.

Mr. Thompson moved on to the **Septage Upgrade**, which entailed the installation of a 75,000-gallon semi-aboveground tank. A site survey was required, something no local surveyor was willing to take on. One of the problems associated with this project was that Mr. Thompson was not sure he could get source power for all of the new devices that would come with the upgrade; so a transformer pad was going to have to be run in there. An electrical engineer would be hired to figure out from where in the Plant they could "steal" power to operate this. There would not be much visible aboveground, he said, except for a new blower shed.

The **Dewatered Sludge Pump Replacement** project synopsis involved "mostly technical stuff," continued the Facilities Manager. As for the **SCADA System**, Mr. Thompson said that although he and Mr. Catlow had started work on this the preceding June, there were a lot of electronics to deal with. Moreover, the SCADA System would involve all of the pump stations in the system.

Mr. Thompson related that he was going to try to get the **Visitors Center Pump Station Upgrade** project done before the summer. He explained that the Department needed "something more robust for pumps because they get clogged all the time." More critically, he said, those pumps got loaded on a rail system, and the current rails, controls and fittings needed a full overhaul. So that was getting done at the same time.

The **Polymair Replacement** was "another technical thing," the frustrating aspects of which Mr. Thompson likened to the intricacies of getting a replacement window exactly right. The **Scum Pump Replacement** was another project that he wanted to complete before the coming summer. The **Dock Street Redundant Run** project had grown out of a vulnerability in the level sensor the Department had become aware of the previous summer. The level sensor did not operate on floats but on a pressure sensor. Tighe & Bond had recommended the installation of floats, to which the station could revert in the case of a failure of the pressure sensor. That way the station could still operate until the failed pressure sensor was replaced.

The **Portable Generator** and **Portable Pump** projects were, according to Mr. Thompson, "things that we should be able to do in-house." He said he ought to be able to use resources tapped by

Procurement Officer Juliet Mulinare when she had recently acquired a generator for the library from a State contractor. As for the pump, he was putting together a spec for it and putting out a Request for Quotes.

Mr. Thompson said he needed a vote to move forward with the Visitors Center Pump Station Update Ref. #WW-19-21 Solicitation for Quotes. Commissioner Murphy made a **motion to authorize Mr. Thompson to take whatever actions were necessary for the Solicitation for Quotes for the Visitors Center Pump Station Upgrade.** Commissioner Ellis offered a second, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS:

FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORTS.

Facilities Manager Thompson provided highlights from the Chief Operator's Report for January, including the "trouble-shoot issues we had at Chase Road starting around the seventeenth," involving erratic level sensor readings at the station. Commissioner Murphy inquired about the January 23 item regarding the pole on Dock Street that Eversource had sought to replace and relocate. Mr. Thompson replied that he had worked for about three hours on a very precise mark-out for an area "the size of this tabletop [where] there's a lot of stuff. They needed to put it exactly where they put it."

The Facilities Manager also reported that the Septage Receiving Station had been closed six or seven business days when the trouble that threatened the Visitors Center had actually occurred at the Septage Pit. "The rail literally de-latched from the bottom so you couldn't get the pump to seat in it," related Mr. Thompson. "So you had to empty it all out." He praised Plant Operator Theodore Van Gerven, who had used his welding skills to replace all the galvanized rails with stainless ones.

FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Referring to the report "FY19 Operating Budget 'Deficit' Spending as of February 25, 2019," Admin Assistant Webster stated that the situation was improving, noting that the so-called Budget Plus was currently overspent by 8.3 percent, or \$46,313.13; on January 22, the deficit had been about \$67,000. The amount available from Chapter 77 Transfer, she said, would be about \$64,000. Mr. Thompson mentioned that the Department would be seeing about \$16,000 from the Special Town Meeting Warrant Article. Mrs. Webster characterized that amount as a "swap," since the Department would be spending \$16,000 of its own funds on the Donaldbin Close Project.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

The Commissioners turned to the **Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 10, 2019.** Commissioner Ellis made a motion to accept the Minutes of January 10, 2019, seconded by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The Board members next considered the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2019.** Referring to page 3, Commissioner Murphy pointed out almost an entire page had been devoted to a casual question to the Facilities Manager about the B-II Zoning District, when a concise, single-sentence description would have sufficed. Chairman Searle and Commissioner Ellis expressed agreement. Commissioner Murphy suggested they hold onto these minutes until the next meeting, and the Admin Assistant said she would make the appropriate revisions.

Moving on to the **Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 5, 2019**, Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

As for the **Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 13, 2019**, Commissioner Murphy expressed the opinion that the Admin Assistant had editorialized through the use of italics, for instance, and phrases like, "Mr. Goldsmith was adamant" (page 6). Commissioner Murphy said that the minutes should be a summary of the meeting and that quotations should appear only if they were specific to a vote or something along those lines. Otherwise, the Admin Assistant ran the risk of pulling out only what she felt was important. He did not recall, he said, uttering to Mr. Sederholm the phrase attributed to him at the top of page 7.

Commissioner Murphy made a **motion to table the approvals of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2019 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 13, 2019 until the next meeting**, seconded by the Chairman. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board members agreed to hold their next Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. There being no further business, Chairman Searle made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, which Commissioner Ellis seconded. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pia Webster
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN



Glen S. Searle, Chairman



Scott Ellis, Commissioner



Sean E. Murphy, Commissioner