



# TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT  
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## TOWN OF EDGARTOWN BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS

### MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 18, 2018

#### **WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

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

#### **EWWD STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Joseph Rock, Plant Operator  
Mr. David Thompson, Facilities Manager  
Mrs. Pia Webster, Administrative Assistant

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Richard J. Barbini, Engineer, Schofield, Barbini & Hoehn  
Jason "Jay" Araujo, Proprietor, Jay's Septic Service

#### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2018, at 4:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Edgartown Waste Water Treatment Facility, located at 330 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, Mass. At 4:00 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:**

#### **CONT'D DISCUSSION/VOTE: DUARTE CIRCLE SEWER MAIN EXTENSION.**

Present for the discussion of the proposed Duarte Circle extension of the Road to the Plains sewer line was engineer Richard J. Barbini, who had spoken on behalf of the owners of 11A and 11B Duarte Circle in the Regular Meeting of November 16, 2017. *[See pages 1-5 of the*

*Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 16, 2017; and pages 4-7 of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 20, 2017.*] Commissioner Murphy stated his concern as follows: If the Board granted the extension, would not any property owner on Duarte Circle then *have* to tie in to the system if their septic system failed? “They wouldn’t *have* to,” said Facilities Manager David Thompson. “They could get an alternate septic system.” “No, they can’t, absolutely not,” retorted Mr. Barbini. Mr. Thompson pointed out that if sewer were not available – and it would not be available if the line were at capacity – then the homeowner would have to resort to an alternative system.

Commissioner Murphy asked if two lots could tie in to the same grinder pump. No, answered Mr. Thompson, not by our regulations. Referring to a list of the subdivide-able lots on the Road to the Plains line, Commissioner Murphy wondered if the Department could require, say, 9 Duarte Circle, which was 1.04 acre, to use a single pump if/when it was divided in two. Mr. Thompson answered that this would not be necessary.

“With this number of subdivide-able lots, we’re still within the comfort zone,” the Facilities Manager explained. “My concern was, once we got into the Simultaneous Run Factor of 10, that we’re getting up there. But where this is, is still within...” Commissioner Murphy interrupted, “Even if all these were subdivided?” “Even if they were all subdivided,” said Mr. Thompson, who added, “But we have to put the brakes on. If somebody from Court Street comes and says they want to tie in ... my inclination would [be to] say no, and it’s a lot easier for me to say no if it’s basically a policy.”

Commissioner Murphy wanted to know how many bedrooms 9 Duarte Circle could get currently. This was a Zone II, said Mr. Barbini; so with a Title V, they could get four bedrooms; and with an advanced system, six. And if the whole lot were sewerred? Seven bedrooms, said Administrative Assistant Pia Webster.

Mr. Barbini suggested that the Board allow eight additional pumps on Duarte Circle and close down the existing force main for any new hookups from that sector of the system, all the way up to The Field Club, Kitts Field Circle and so forth. You mean no new pumps *in addition* to the lots as they are laid out in the current plan, clarified the Admin Assistant. Right, said Mr. Barbini; then if you do that and somebody subdivides, they have the right to put an advanced septic on the newly created lot.

But they could do a house and a guest house tied in to the same pump? Commissioner Ellis confirmed with the Facilities Manager. So long as it is on the same lot, noted the Admin Assistant.

Plant Operator Joseph Rock mentioned the Town’s Meshacket Road affordable housing project, and Mr. Thompson pointed out that this development was “a different animal” and would be tied in to a four-inch line coming off the Meshacket Road Substation. “That’s already built into the count,” he said.

But what about the 2.8 acres at 22 Road to the Plains? Mr. Rock wondered. “Well, we have a cushion yet,” said Mr. Thompson, “We haven’t totally maxed the thing out. We’re getting up

there. So the theory is that we apply the brakes before we run out of the ability to add pumps.”

“So if you add the subdivide-able lots on the list...” began Admin Assistant Webster. “I don’t think that’ll kill us,” said Mr. Thompson. “And as for the Simultaneous Run Factor, we enter ten,” said Mrs. Webster. Right, confirmed Mr. Thompson. “And the Town can do its thing if it wants to do a cluster at 22 [Road to the Plains],” affirmed the Admin Assistant.

A discussion ensued, with Mr. Barbini arguing for allowing only eight pumps on Duarte Circle and Mr. Thompson for allowing ten, with Nos. 9 and 10 being subdivide-able, and assigning two pumps apiece. “The force main’s at *capacity*. You can put *septic* on the other lot,” insisted Mr. Barbini.

Commissioner Murphy pointed out that a definitive vote was not needed at that time, since all Mr. Barbini had been looking for when he had presented his proposal in November had been a general go-ahead from the Board. Then he could get to create the design, assess the feasibility and work out the details of the project. “I can tell you *now*,” declared Mr. Barbini. “*I want approval for eight lots*. That’s what I *asked* for.” “Eight pumps, you mean,” Admin Assistant Webster clarified.

Commissioner Murphy reiterated his concern for the landowner who knew nothing about the proposal. “These people [owners of 11A and 11B] are doing it on their own,” said Mr. Barbini, “Nobody else has approached you guys to do it.” “I’ve had one [other] call from somebody on Duarte Circle,” interjected the Admin Assistant. “To tie in?” asked Mr. Barbini. “To tie in, yes,” replied the Admin Assistant, adding, “It was not one with a subdivide-able lot.”

The discussion continued. Commissioner Ellis said that it seemed that what a property owner got with the advanced septic and what he got with sewer were roughly equivalent. The Admin Assistant agreed. Mr. Thompson emphasized that allowing two additional pumps – one apiece for Nos. 9 and 10 Duarte Circle – was “not going to break the bank.”

Commissioner Murphy remarked that he was comfortable allowing the Duarte Circle sewer extension. “But I’d want to see the final layout and get Dave [Thompson]’s approval before we actually vote it,” he said. Mr. Barbini stated that he wanted the same kind of approval the Board had given him for the Vickers Street project, specifically, “that you’ll accept tying in with eight pumps on Duarte Circle...”

Commissioner Murphy then offered the following motion: Subject to the Facilities Manager’s approval; and subject further to the assurance that any future subdivision of Nos. 9 and 10 Duarte Circle will result in buildable lots as represented in the foregoing discussion, that Board votes to accept Mr. Barbini’s proposal to extend the Road to the Plains sewer system down Duarte Circle with eight pumps. Commissioner Ellis provided a second.

Admin Assistant Webster verified with Commissioner Murphy that he no longer sought to have the parties seeking the Duarte Circle line get waivers from the other landowners on the street stating that they understood what the future held for them in terms of subdividing and tying in to the sewer system. [Ibid., page 7.] Commissioner Murphy indicated that this was

not necessary, since sewer or not, any subdivided land was entitled to an equivalent number of bedrooms. Mr. Barbini stressed that he could only do his calculations based upon the number of lots currently there. "Otherwise, I'd go *insane*," he said.

Facilities Manager Thompson also mentioned that he had been approached by an agent for the owner of 4 Quail Path, a 1.15-acre lot that had been included in the Road to the Plains plan. Mr. Thompson said that he was inclined to say that, okay, that landowner could subdivide and have the extra pump in addition to the single pump assigned to the original lot. Chairman Searle repeated the motion, then conducted a voice vote. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Barbini thanked the Board members and left the meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

The Board members considered the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 16, 2017**. Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Commissioner Murphy. There being no comments or revisions, the motion carried by voice vote, with Commissioners Ellis and Murphy voting aye and Chairman Searle abstaining, because he had not attended that meeting.

Moving on to the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 20, 2017**, Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve as written, and Commissioner Murphy provided a second. There being no discussion or amendments, the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE VOTE: THE OFF-HOURS PUMP-OUT – DEFINING IT, CHARGING FOR IT.**

Present for the discussion of Off-Hours Pump-Outs was Jason "Jay" Araujo, owner of Jay's Septic Service of Edgartown. Chairman Searle noted that some haulers had been abusing the service offered by the Facility, bringing in loads when the Plant was closed that were "not really emergencies." [Ibid., page 3.] And even though a \$100 fee was charged, he pointed out, that money went to the Town and not back into the Operating Budget, out of which came the overtime paid to the Operator who had to come in and open up the Receiving Station. "It's crushing the OT," he said.

Admin Assistant Webster was quick to point out that Mr. Araujo was not one of the haulers abusing the service. Facilities Manager Thompson related that he had e-mailed a letter regarding the problem to all of the haulers, hoping it would "put out the fire." He emphasized that he did not want to raise the fee so much that it became "punitive." Commissioner Murphy wanted to know, If a hauler came in, say, four times when the Plant was closed over the course of a month, could the Department refuse the load? Admin Assistant Webster remarked that there was one particular hauler that had used the service *11 times* during last August alone.

"Theoretically, we can refuse loads," replied Mr. Thompson. "However, again, that puts whichever Operator is on duty at that time making a judgment call like that." Mr. Araujo

shed light on the difference between Porta Potty loads, which could be consolidated by the hauler and held overnight in a larger truck, and true emergency septage pump-outs. The Admin Assistant indicated that the hauler she had referred to earlier who overused the service was, in fact, bringing in Porta Potty loads.

“Personally, I think we should monitor it,” said Commissioner Murphy, “and if it starts to get abusive, notify that company and just tell them, there are no more emergencies. If you have a real emergency, too bad...” Mr. Thompson said that the Admin Assistant was “keeping a scorecard.” The discussion continued, with talk of cold temperatures having an effect on loads held overnight and how the service had been instituted so the the Porta Potty trucks pumping out the facilities at South Beach during the high season could unload.

It was agreed that the fee would stay at \$100 and that staff would continue to monitor the situation and say something to individual haulers when necessary. “I think a little vigilance goes a long way,” said Mr. Thompson. Commissioner Murphy had to leave at this point (4:21 p.m.) for another meeting. Mr. Araujo also left.

**OLD BUSINESS [Continued]:**

**UPDATES: ONGOING PLANTS UPGRADES.**

Facilities Manager Thompson referred the Board members to the Draft Invitation For Bid for the **Replacement of Process Flow Meters** that looked for a one-for-one replacement of the existing devices, using the infrastructure the Plant already had. The amount allotted for the project was \$165,000, and it looked as if it could be done for \$92,000.

The Facilities Manager also reported that he and the crew had been working on the installation of the **Mechanical Bar Screen** and that the **UV Disinfectant Replacement Equipment** ought to be delivered at the end of February.

**NEW BUSINESS [Continued]:**

**DISCUSSION: JAN 11 BUDGET/WARRANT ARTICLE MEETING WITH FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE & SELECTMEN.**

Chairman Searle thanked Commissioner Ellis, noting he would thank Commissioner Murphy later, for the full attendance of the Board at the January 11 budget meeting with the Financial Advisory Committee and Board of Selectmen. “It looked good with all the Commissioners,” he added. Commissioner Ellis agreed: “They do appreciate it.” Mr. Thompson remarked that the meeting had gone particularly well “in comparison to some previous years. So I’m very happy with what we got out of that.” “We are, too,” said Chairman Searle.

**REPORT: WINTER STORM “GRAYSON.”**

“My report on winter storm Grayson is, things went pretty well for us, considering we had ourselves a little water downtown,” related the Facilities Manager. “*Scott* saw it,” he added, referring to Commissioner Ellis, who said, “That happened to be the day I had to drain the

Yacht Club. I started off with a puddle in the kitchen, and when I got done, I was standing in water up to my knees.”

Mr. Thompson continued that the Department had had some issues downtown: “We had some over-pumping, we had some some infiltration. We’re in the middle of an I and I study. But I’m not sure that one of these events would show up, given the flow that we got.”

The Facilities Manager went on: “Somewhere down the line I’m thinking of asking for a dozen really, really good, gasketed, non-infiltration manholes and get R.H. White or somebody like that and do the whole stretch. Because it’s still gettin’ in. I think we picked up, my guess is, around sixty thousand extra gallons.” He added that once everything went under, the storm drains no longer worked.

Mr. Thompson mentioned that it was the first time he had been able to watch the Dock Street pumps in operation concurrent with an event, using the SCADA system. Commissioner Ellis confirmed with Mr. Thompson that the covers for the sealed manholes that the Facilities Manager had proposed would be removable.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

#### **FACILITIES MANAGER’S REPORT.**

“It was just kind of a happenin’ month with a lot of little stuff going on,” said Mr. Thompson, who related that he had spent a lot of time putting together the upcoming capital projects and getting ready for the FinCom. The crew, he said, had been taking care of snow issues.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Admin Assistant Webster went over a report titled “FY18 Article/Capital Spending Pulled from Operating Budget, Updated as of January 22, 2018.” She reminded the Board members that as of November 17, 2017, the Expenditures section of the Operating Budgets had run over expected levels by more than \$30,000.00, or 6.3 percent of that section of the budget. But as of January 22, 2018, the date of the latest Bill Warrant, the overrun was down to 4.5 percent, or \$21,764.64.

What made this especially impressive, she explained, was that so far in FY18, \$26,803.79 of Operating Budget funds had been spent on capital expenditures, as enumerated in the upper half of the report. More than \$15,000.00 has been spent on the Grit and Screenings Container alone; and the Lab Roof Replacement Change Order had eaten up more than \$7,400.00.

“So I commend Dave [Thompson] and, really, all of us here for slowing things down and getting a handle on this,” the Admin Assistant said.

Mrs. Webster briefly went over the FY18 Budget Expenditures Report, as well as comparisons of fiscal-year-to-date (FY12 through FY18) Septage-Revenue-by-Type and Septage-Volume-by-Type figures. The Septage figures continued to set Department records, she reported.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next Regular Meeting was set for Thursday, February 15, 2018. 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 4:30 p.m.

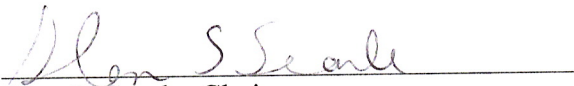
Respectfully submitted,



Pia Webster  
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS  
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN



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Glen S. Searle, Chairman



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Scott Ellis, Commissioner

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Sean E. Murphy, Commissioner