



TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT
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TOWN OF EDGARTOWN BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 24, 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

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 24, 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:

UPDATE: CONTRACT FOR REPLACEMENT OF PROCESS FLOW METERS.

“What can I say?” began Facilities Manager David Thompson, who reported that he had had to move back the Replacement of Process Flow Meters to the fall. The reason was that the parts would not be available until July.

NEW BUSINESS: ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT UNDER WARN FOR RENTAL OF GENERATOR FROM OAK BLUFFS WASTEWATER DEPT.

Mr. Thompson related that he had “brokered a deal” with Oak Bluffs Facilities Manager Jim Monteith to rent at a rate of \$50 per day the 150-kilowatt trailer-mounted generator the Edgartown Waste Water Department had borrowed from Oak Bluffs. Comparable generators

rented in the marketplace for around \$4,000 per month; so this was a fair offer. “They do kind of want it back,” he added.

Chairman Searle wanted to know why the Department could not just *buy* a backup generator for the Chase Road Substation. The Facilities Manager answered that they could pay for one with funds from the bond issue voted in the April Town Meeting, available July 1. A brief discussion followed. Mr. Thompson said he would talk to engineer Ian Catlow of Tighe & Bond about specs. For instance, the generator they had borrowed was 150-kilowatt, but 100 or 125 might be good. Also, they could get a step-down board so they could use it around town wherever there were goosenecks.

The Board members agreed to the temporary solution of renting the trailer-mounted generator from the Oak Bluffs Wastewater Department for \$50.00 a day.

DISCUSSION: PROPOSED DRESS CODE POLICY.

The Board members considered a Draft Dress Code Policy. Mr. Thompson explained that the matter of establishing a Department Dress Code had come up at a number of Personnel Department meetings. “I’ve had some issues in the past,” he said. Among the requirements was the wearing of steel-toed boots and Town identification badges by the crew.

Commissioner Murphy wanted to know if a crew member could be legally docked time for not complying with the policy. “If it’s in writing,” replied Mr. Thompson. Commissioner Ellis asked if there was a laundry facility onsite, and Mr. Thompson said that there was. A brief discussion ensued, and no objections were voiced to instituting a Dress Code.

DISCUSSION/VOTE: FY18 SEWER USER CHARGES ABATEMENT REQUESTS.

Chairman Searle made a motion to table FY18 Sewer User Charges Abatements No. 4 – Hardship Exemptions, because he wanted to obtain further background regarding one of the property owners in question. Commissioner Ellis provided a second, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

REPORT: MEETING WITH FINCOM RE: CHAPTER 77 TRANSFER REQUEST.

The Facilities Manager reported on the May 23 meeting of the Financial Advisory Committee during which the Waste Water Department’s request to transfer \$48,000 under Chapter 77 from the Chief Operator Salary Account to the Special Services Expense Account had been considered. Mr. Thompson believed that “the die was cast” by the Selectmen’s Office before the meeting took place and that any effort by FinCom member Morton Fearey, Jr. to argue for approval was destined to fall on deaf ears. In the end the FinCom approved a transfer of \$24,000, with the possibility of more if needed.

DISCUSSION: CONSIDERATION OF FY19 RATES FOR JUNE MEETING.

Administrative Assistant Pia Webster went through some details of a report titled “FY18 Sewer User Charges Revenue,” which indicated Total Expected New Sewer Revenue of

\$1,383,143.25, an increase of 9.6 percent over the figure for FY17 of \$1,261,955.90. Turning to a report titled “FY18 Cash Reports as of May 23, 2018,” Mrs. Webster pointed to Total Septage Billed and Not Billed Income thus far of \$462,945.49, up 15.8 percent over the same point last fiscal year. Lastly, Projected Total FY18 Collections were expected to be \$1,960,000.00, compared to Total Actual FY17 Collections of \$1,741,242.87.

The Admin Assistant stated that without raising either the Sewer User Charges Rates, increased in FY18, or the Septage Rates, last raised in FY12, the Department could expect healthy growth of around 5 percent or \$98,000. About \$56,000 would come from the anticipated 750 to 800 OTDs to be added to the customer base in FY19, a conservative estimate calculated from active permits. The other \$42,000 would be raised by an increase in the Septage Receiving business, a not unreasonable expectation based on the record of the past six fiscal years.

OTHER BUSINESS:

FACILITIES MANAGER’S REPORTS.

Facilities Manager Thompson reported that the plant flow for April had been 5,670,974 gallons; while for March it had been 6,782,766 gallons. This, he said, reflected all the storm water that had infiltrated the system during the four nor’easters in three weeks during March. “The Atlantic Ocean appreciates you cleaning it,” noted Commissioner Murphy.

As he had in earlier meetings, Mr. Thompson spoke of plans to install at some point gasketed, non-infiltration manholes down the whole stretch along the harbor. *[See page 6 of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 18, 2018.]* Commissioner Murphy inquired if all of the the work done on the Dock Street Pump Station had held; Mr. Thompson responded that it had. Also, the Facilities Manager went over a chart comparing run times and starts in March and April at the Dock Street Pump Station.

FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Admin Assistant Webster went over the FY18 Operating Budget Expenditures Report as of May 29, 2018, where Total OB Expenses stood at 84.2 percent used, at a juncture in the fiscal year where expenditures should be at 87.3 percent. The situation, she said, had been much ameliorated by the transfer of \$24,000 from the Chief Operator Salary Account.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

The Commissioners turned to the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 19, 2018**. Mrs. Webster noted two proposed corrections. On page 2, at the end of the second sentence in the second paragraph, the words “an additional flow meter” should be deleted and replaced with “an additional set of two flow meters, at about \$25,000 per set.” Also on page 2, the first word in the sixth paragraph should be changed from “Mr.” to “Ms.” Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 19, 2018, as amended, seconded by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried unanimously by voice voice.

ADJOURNMENT

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 4:34 p.m.


Respectfully submitted,




Pia Webster
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

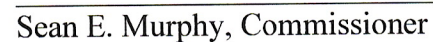
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