

**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN  
BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS**

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2017**

**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:**

Mr. Richard J. Barbini, P.E.  
Mr. Ian Catlow, P.E., Senior Project Manager, Tighe & Bond

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 16, 2017, 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.

With project engineer Richard J. Barbini present and waiting, Chairman Searle called on him to present the Vickers Street Sewer Main Extension Proposal.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**PROPOSAL: RICHARD J. BARBINI ON VICKERS ST SEWER MAIN EXTENSION.**

Mr. Barbini described the Vickers Street sewer extension, which would entail 30 additional tie-ins to the system. Facilities Manager David Thompson explained that the extension would tie in to the Road to the Plains main. Waste Water Commissioner Scott Ellis asked whether the latter line was “big enough” to handle the expanded flow to the system. Yes, replied Mr. Thompson.

Did all of the 30 lot owners intend to tie in? inquired the Chairman. "I doubt it," answered Mr. Barbini, who said that the project needed a minimum of four tie-ins to be viable. He recommended that at the last lateral farthest from the Road to the Plains, where the lot belonging to the person heading up the project sat, a valve be put in until somebody else tied in.

Mr. Thompson noted that in the case of the Dark Woods project, because the early tie-ins had not been situated at strategic points and/or because not enough properties had been tied in, when the last lot at the end of Dark Woods Road was hooked up, "it wouldn't flow due to obstruction." He added that there had been "a smaller version of that issue at Island Grove." Mr. Barbini said that he had always held, since he had been involved in these projects, there had to be some kind of way to force people to tie into the main. "Otherwise, it's useless, absolutely useless," he remarked.

Mr. Barbini stated that he was there to get permission to proceed with the Vickers Street project. Waste Water Commissioner Sean E. Murphy looked to the Facilities Manager and asked what he thought. Considering the flows for the entire watershed, and particularly for this network, answered Mr. Thompson, the Vickers design would be adding 13,200 gallons per day of flow, reckoning 110 gallons a day per person. We're figuring four bedrooms per lot, said Mr. Barbini.

Administrative Assistant Pia Webster interjected that the Vickers Street lots were on the larger side, a half-acre, qualifying them for six bedrooms under the Department's Bedroom Regulation. In her experience, she said, homeowners tended to want to maximize the potential of their property. The types of questions posed by real estate agents and homeowners in the dozens of calls she fielded each week attested to that fact.

"They *all* won't tie in," Mr. Thompson pointed out, plus the flows were generously sized. But the addition *would* put the Department at more than 70 percent of that line's capacity, he added, meaning that this would be the end of sewer expansion on that line. "If this goes in, that's pretty much *it*," he declared. "That puts us at about 75 percent of that line's capacity... So that would be the point at which we say, 'No more.'"

Moving on, the Facilities Manager explained that the Vickers Street extension was an entirely private project and that its originators would establish a trust. And as the Department had had to do in the cases of the Dark Woods Road and Kitts Field Circle projects, signed permission from the trust would have to be obtained by a sewer permit applicant before a permit would be issued by the Department. He reminded the Board members that this had not been the case with the Road to the Plains extension two years earlier, since that was a Town road.

Commissioner Murphy wondered if it would help if the Board members were to restrict the number of bedrooms to which a lot would be entitled. "It's the number of *pumps* that caps it," explained Mr. Barbini. Commissioner Murphy clarified with Messrs. Barbini and Thompson that once the Road to the Plains moratorium was lifted, homeowners on that section of the road could tie in, as well as those on spurs off that section. "But we *can't* tie in Duarte Circle," Mr. Thompson spelled out, because it had not been part of the Road to the Plains project.

The Facilities Manager turned his attention to the Edgartown Great Pond Watershed Agreement. "When we did the agreement in 2006," he began, "the deal was, we'd take three hundred septics out of the watershed and we devoted a hundred and thirty-two thousand gallons of our capacity

to remove those three hundred. Three hundred times four bedrooms times a hundred and ten gallons a day is a hundred and thirty-two thousand gallons a day.”

Mr. Thompson went on: “The watershed design plan ... eventually encompassed all of this, a total of three hundred thirty-five [septics] that includes a bunch of little areas along the way. That’s a hundred and forty-seven thousand four hundred. Three hundred and thirty-five times four bedrooms times a hundred and ten. However, we also have Edgartown Meadows, Hye Road and Bennett Way. If you put all of them on, we’re now at four hundred and thirty-four potential lots times four bedrooms times a hundred and ten gallons and it’s a hundred and ninety thousand nine hundred and sixty. We’re not even at ninety percent participation, but we’ve kind of committed ourselves more than we’ve allocated.”

“Are these part of the watershed?” asked Commissioner Murphy, referring to the Vickers Street lots. “Yes,” responded Mr. Thompson, “this is all the stuff that’s in the watershed.” He continued, “So I had talked to you guys before about how at some point we’re going to have to consider upping the allocation for the watershed a little bit in order to cover ...” “We’re not close *right now*?” asked Commissioner Murphy. “No, we’re not close,” said Mr. Thompson, going on, “Just I wanted to put that on the table that we are about sixty thousand gallons, sixty thousand GPD over what...” “If *everybody* tied in,” Commissioner Murphy finished Mr. Thompson’s sentence for him.

The Facilities Manager added that the so-called Dickie Brown project (139 Meetinghouse Way, Map 37, Lot 47) was not included in these calculations, since the flows from that subdivision, plus the flows from the Town’s affordable housing project on Meshacket Road, would be going directly to the pump station.

“So, going back to Vickers,” stated the Facilities Manager, “*yes*, we’ve got room for the pumps.”

Commissioner Murphy made a motion that the Board approve the request to extend the sewer main down Vickers Street as described in the foregoing discussion. Commissioner Ellis provided a second, and the motion carried by voice vote. “I would like to add just one little caveat to this,” stressed Mr. Thompson. “We need minimum participation for this to go ahead.” Commissioner Murphy amended his motion, adding “subject to the approval of David Thompson as to the flow design and minimum participation.” Commissioner Ellis seconded the amendment, and the amended motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

### **MECHANICAL BAR SCREEN PROPOSAL EVALUATION WITH IAN CATLOW OF TIGHE & BOND.**

Next, Ian Catlow, Senior Project Manager at Tighe & Bond, began a preliminary evaluation on the proposal submitted by Duperon Corporation in response to RFP # WW-17-28, Advertisement for Request For Proposals, Influent Screen System Procurement. A single proposal had been submitted.

Mr. Catlow expressed surprised that only one proposal had been tendered. “It was definitely out there, and there was good interest in it,” he said. Facilities Manager Thompson observed that he had a “reasonable expectation that we can install it ourselves.” But first, he added, it was up to Mr. Catlow to evaluate the device itself. Mr. Catlow said he would take the proposal materials

back to his office to evaluate the device by the stated criteria. “The discussion is whether it fits our needs,” said Mr. Thompson. “A couple of things are better than expected... It runs on VFD.” In addition, he said, it had a pair of ultrasonic sensors, as opposed to float-operated ones.

Commissioner Murphy wanted to know about installation. Mr. Catlow answered that there was virtually no installation, that there was just a screen control panel that needed to be wired. Mr. Thompson said that with a June delivery likely, he thought he could get Cole Powers to handle that aspect of it. The whole project could come in for under \$100,000. Mr. Catlow stated that he wanted to have his guys at Tighe & Bond finish the evaluation by the following Monday. Commissioner Murphy asked Mr. Catlow what he needed from the Board. A motion to allow Dave Thompson to open the bid, Mr. Catlow replied. “I say we open it,” said Commissioner Murphy.

At 4:23 p.m. Facilities Manager Thompson opened the bid, which was \$86,000. “We budgeted seventy thousand,” said Mr. Thompson. “Seventy-two,” said Admin Assistant Webster. Commissioner Ellis suggested they go to the Financial Advisory Committee to ask for the difference, as well as the funds for the electrical work. “There’s not much we can do to strip that down,” remarked Mr. Thompson, adding, “We don’t have any wiggle room on limiting the scope.”

Commissioner Murphy recommended that the Facilities Manager reach out to Procurement Officer Juliet Mulinare to see if the Department could keep the Duperon proposal alive. Mr. Catlow said he could write a letter to Duperon, requesting that they hold the price for 60 to 90 days. Additionally, Commissioner Murphy urged Mr. Thompson to write a one-paragraph summary of what would happen if the mechanical bar screen failed. This could be part of a presentation to the FinCom, he said.

Chairman Searle made a motion to hold off any decision on acceptance of the Duperon proposal and bid regarding the Influent Screen System until at least the April Regular Meeting and to ask the vendor to hold the price for 60 days. Commissioner Murphy provided a second, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**UPDATE: DOCK STREET HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM PROJECT.**

Mr. Catlow offered a brief update on the Dock Street Pump Station Project, reporting that work had begun on the control panel behind Town Hall. Also, Robert B. Our Company had married up old pipe with the new equipment, and the station pumps were in. “These guys seem to be on track to go on line on April 15,” he concluded.

**NEW BUSINESS [Continued]:**

**VOTE: APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH SYNAGRO  
SLUDGE CAKE DISPOSAL BID AND CONTRACT.**

Synagro Northeast had provided the single response to the Invitation For Bid, Dewatered Sludge Cake Disposal, Reference # WW-17-21-1, related Facilities Manager Thompson. The bid –

\$80.70 per wet ton, plus annual adjustments per the Consumer Price Index at the start of the second and third years of the contract – had been opened on March 1. Over all, Mr. Thompson said, this would add about \$1,500 a year to the sludge cake disposal expense. He then explained that he could not sign the contract with Synagro until after the Annual Town Meeting voted the Department’s Operating Budget, which contained the line item out of which Synagro’s new contract would be paid. Since we’re not meeting before then, the Facilities Manager went on, he was asking the Board to authorize him to sign the contract and advertise for the transport of the sludge cake to the Synagro facility once the ATM had voted the FY18 Operating Budget.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to allow the Facilities Manager, once Annual Town Meeting had passed the Waste Water Department’s FY18 Annual Budget, to sign the Synagro contract; and further, to advertise for the transport of the sludge cakes to the Synagro facility. Commissioner Murphy provided a second, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**REPORT: FEBRUARY 27, 2017 INCIDENT IN SEPTAGE RECEIVING.**

The Facilities Manager and the Board discussed briefly an incident that had occurred on February 27 involving septage hauler Timothy Peters, who had collapsed in the Receiving Station and been taken away by ambulance. A full written report by Mr. Thompson, as well as one by Theodore Van Gerven, the operator then on-duty at the station, had been submitted to the Board and the Town Administrator shortly after the incident. Also, Mr. Thompson had made a full report to, and been working with, Arthur Pennesi, Occupational Safety and Health Inspector for the Department of Labor Standards, who had paid a visit to the Facility and made recommendations. “Nice job,” said Commissioner Murphy and Chairman Searle at the same time.

**REPORT: MARCH 6, 2017 STOP & SHOP PROPOSAL MEETING.**

Mr. Thompson related that Stop & Shop was “looking to add sixteen thousand square feet” to its store on Upper Main Street. The original specs for that store, he continued, were based on the State’s Food Store Loading Requirements of 97 gallons per day per 1,000 square feet for a 25,034-square-foot store. The existing tank had a capacity of just 4,500 gallons. “So they need a bigger tank,” the Facilities Manager said. He estimated that the project would call for at least a 6,000-gallon tank, to allow for “headroom” if the system shut down.

Responding to a query from Commissioner Murphy, Mr. Thompson said that the Stop & Shop representatives “haven’t given me anything.” Commissioner Murphy wanted to know where the tank would go. “Between them and the hotel,” replied Mr. Thompson, who added, “The station is on the left on a little slot of parking spaces that nobody uses.”

“They haven’t even started at the [Martha’s Vineyard] Commission yet,” noted Commissioner Murphy. “So they’ve got a ways to go,” observed Chairman Searle.

**REPORT: STAFFING UPDATE.**

Facilities Manager Thompson reported that Department Assistant Matthew Parker had his last day on March 10; that new Operator Mario Mercadante was “working out” and would be ready

for supervised weekend work in the fall; and that four applications for the Department Assistant position had been submitted.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Admin Assistant Webster reported on FY17 Septage Acceptance as of March 16, noting that at \$286,117.46, Revenue was down 3.1 percent compared to the record fiscal year of FY16; at \$287,481.61, Collections were down 1.9 percent; and at 1,276,071 gallons, Volume down 3.3 percent. However, she said, the Number of Loads compared to the prior fiscal year was up 6.2 percent. "Construction, construction, construction," she explained, pointing out that Porta-Potty volume had risen by 19.3 percent.

"And three point one percent [down] is nothing," Mrs. Webster added, "because we had such a huge year [in FY16]."<sup>1</sup> "Plus the first two weeks of March were miserable," said Commissioner Murphy. "It's all about the weather," agreed the Facilities Manager.

"Next page," said the Admin Assistant, pointing to the FY17 Operating Budget Expenditures Report as of March 20, 2017. "I don't like where the Operating Budget is at all," she declared. Pointing to the line labeled Total OB Expenses, Mrs. Webster said that its funds were 76.5 Percent Used, although at this point, in the simplest terms, they should be 70.4 Percent Used. Moreover, the rate of spending was due to accelerate at the start of the next month.

On the next page was a chart titled FY17 Operating Budget "Deficit" Spending as of March 20, 2017. The Admin Assistant indicated how the difference between the 76.5 percent actually spent and the 70.4 percent theoretical ideal involved the difference between having \$112,780.89 left in the budget and having \$141,871.50 left. In other words, as of that day, the Department had overspent by \$29,090.61. But the situation was worse than that, she said, because the rate of spending was due to gain momentum as the weather warmed.

"So I'm giving everyone fair warning that I do have concerns," said Mrs. Webster. Plus, she added, when she had looked at the Special Town Meeting Warrant, she had noticed that the Waste Water Commissioners' Article with the more than \$3,600 supplement to the Facilities Manager's Salaries and Wages line had been left out. Responding to concerns expressed by Commissioner Murphy, the Admin Assistant assured him that Mr. Thompson was being paid his full salary. And there would be funds left from Salaries and Wages portion of the budget to transfer after May 1 to the Expenditures portion. "We don't have *enough* money there, though, if we continue to spend as we have from the bottom," Mrs. Webster stressed. "I'm just saying, we've got to put the brakes on the spending."

When Mr. Thompson pointed out that the Plant Operators line item was only 62 percent spent, Mrs. Webster said that Jeremy Osborn had been gone since November and the new Operator had been with them for only a payroll and a half. So the spending from that line would accelerate.

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<sup>1</sup> FY16 Revenue was up 17.2 percent over the next best fiscal year, FY14.

His own line would be depleted by his Longevity Pay in the next payroll. “And the overtime will start speeding up again,” she added. The discussion wound down.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board considered the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2017**. There being no comments or amendments, Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Ellis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, which Commissioner Murphy seconded. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:59 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