

**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2017**

WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mr. Glen S. Searle, Chairman
Mr. Scott Ellis, Commissioner

WASTE WATER COMMISSIONER ABSENT:

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, April 20, 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.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE: DOCK STREET HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM PROJECT.

“Well, they’re all cleaned up down there,” reported Facilities Manager David Thompson. “They’re paving right now,” said Waste Water Commissioner Scott Ellis. Mr. Thompson added that there seemed to be “some lingering, nagging electrical weirdness down there.” Are they

fixing that? asked Chairman Searle. Mr. Thompson described a “continuity issue between the Town Hall and the station, which turned out to be nothing. It was an installer error, let’s say ... I wasn’t that happy with that,” he said. “I want better.”

In addition, the Facilities Manager continued, “they owe us some stuff.” Sub-contractor Fall River Electrical Associates Co. Inc. was taking care of the deficiencies. The fact was, Mr. Thompson concluded, the grant would expire June 1; so all the loose ends would have to be tied up by then.

UPDATE: VICKERS STREET SEWER MAIN EXTENSION.

Administrative Assistant Pia Webster pointed to the list of the five residents of Vickers Street who had paid into the project and to whom she had mailed Grinder Pump Easement materials. She described the system she had set up with Farrissey Tele-Comm for sewer permit applications once the easements had been posted.

The Facilities Manager asked if the Selectmen had signed the permit that Farrissey Tele-Comm had been waiting for. I heard it would be tomorrow, answered Mrs. Webster.

UPDATE: BAR SCREEN PROPOSAL.

Facilities Manager Thompson related that the crew had done “some in-house McGyvering” and put together a temporary fix for the bar screen. “It was an interesting job of work,” he said. “It’s *something* like a bar screen conveyor.”

Mr. Thompson went on that he had spoken to Duperon about the Influent Screen System Proposal and the removal of the \$6,500 expense for a seismic evaluation of the building. “We’re looking much better for July 1,” he said.

NEW BUSINESS:

**PROPOSAL: APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH
SLUDGE CAKE TRANSPORTATION BID.**

Mr. Thompson reported on the two bids for Transportation of Dewatered Sludge Cake to Disposal Facility (#WW-17-21-2): R.M. Packer Company, Inc. of Vineyard Haven, \$1,275 per container; and Howland Disposal Service of Plymouth, \$1,249 per container. “So it’s Howland,” said the Facilities Manager.

“So Howland comes from off-Island?” inquired Commissioner Ellis. Mr. Thompson outlined the routine that Howland Disposal had followed since July 2014, when they had signed their first three-year contract with the Department. It was a routine that had worked out well for both parties, remarked the Facilities Manager.

Chairman Searle made a motion to accept the bid of \$1,249 per container by Howland Disposal Service for the Transportation of Sludge Cake to Disposal Facility. Commissioner Ellis provided a second, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

REPORT: STAFFING UPDATE.

Mr. Thompson said that he and Mrs. Webster had interviewed one candidate for the position of Department Assistant, who was unable to take the position due to the early start time. A second candidate had been scheduled but declined to come in when she learned about the 7:00 a.m. start time. Mr. Thompson had spoken to Personnel and decided to be more flexible, if the start time was going to be a problem. So the Department would be running a new advertisement for a 30-to-32.5-hour-a-week Department Assistant position, with the workday beginning at 8:30 a.m.

DISCUSSION/VOTE: FY17 SEWER USER CHARGE HARDSHIP EXEMPTIONS.

The Admin Assistant presented a list of the five sewer customers who had qualified for the Hardship Exemptions granted after application and hearing before the Board of Assessors: Gloria Fisk (S0910, Map 20A, Parcel 120, 60 Pine St); Peter B. Van Tassel (S0454, Map 29B, Parcel 34, 119 So Water St); Patricia Rae Allen (S0145, Map 20C, Parcel 150, 50 West Tisbury Rd); Constance Scott (S1038, Map 28, Parcel 150, 42 Martha's Rd); and Ralph Gross (S1045, Map 20C, Parcel 87, 34 Pinehurst Rd).

The total charges of the five bills came to \$2,170, and the total abated to \$1,920, with each customer paying \$50 annually after abatement. This, said Mrs. Webster, was virtually the same amount as the total for Hardship Exemption Abatements the previous fiscal year.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to accept the Hardship Exemption Abatements as presented, seconded by Chairman Searle. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS:

FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORTS.

Mr. Thompson stated that the only thing he wanted to add to the two reports in the meeting binders was that he was "still playing the game to get the grit and screenings taken care of," since Don Hatch of the M.V. Refuse Disposal & Resource Recovery District was no longer willing to accept this material. He had found out that Bruno's Rolloff, Inc. of Oak Bluffs would charge \$935 per trip to take the grit and screenings off to Bourne. Further, Bruno's would rent the Department a container for \$60 a month, but they would need a gasket for the container or they would not be able to get it off the Island.

Mr. Thompson said he had gotten the testing sorted out with the Department's testing laboratory, "so we know where we are on that." If the Department were to buy a container, the Facilities Manager continued, it would be a "twenty-yarder," about 22 feet long. And if he were to position the container where he had to, which would be out next to the Septage Receiving Station, they were going to have to "pour a pad so I can sit the thing down there."

Mr. Thompson said he had been thinking about talking to Eddie Smith about doing the work. "Can't we get the Highway Department to help with that?" asked Commissioner Ellis. "Get a

couple of Stuart [Fuller]’s guys in,” agreed the Chairman, adding, “They’re not doing the sidewalks.” “I’ll check that out,” said Mr. Thompson, “because I certainly don’t have the money to do it.”

Admin Assistant Webster asked the Board members to take a look at the letter she had drawn up for them to sign regarding the **Facilities Manager’s Vacation Day Buyback**. She said that this was her second try to get Mr. Thompson the buyback funds and that she had written the letter to the Chairman of the Personnel Board at the suggestion of Temporary Human Resources Coördinator Marilyn Wortman.

Mr. Thompson noted that he had taken up the issue of the buyback with former Human Resources Coördinator Elaine Graves via e-mail the last week of February, which ought to have handled it in the first place. Apparently, Ms. Graves had not followed up on his request.

Finally, said Mrs. Webster, there was an April 6 letter in this section of the binders to Mark Hess, Chairman of the Affordable Housing Committee, requested by that committee as assurance that an adequate number of sewer connections had been dedicated by the Department to the 30-unit affordable housing project planned for Meshacket Road. Facilities Manager Thompson had signed the letter.

FINANCIAL REPORTS.

“Budget – Ouch!” declared Admin Assistant Webster, who added that the Department was “closing the gap.” Mr. Thompson said that by his calculations there would be a surplus of about \$27,000 in the Salaries and Wages portion of the FY17 Operating Budget, the transfer of which to the Expenditures portion ought to get the Department through the fiscal year.

The next report was the FY17 Sewer Charges Collection Report as of April 20, 2017, which indicated a total of \$90,802.09, or 7.2 percent, left to collect. The Admin Assistant said it was a good time of year to get out reminder notices, and she would “do my darnedest” to get that done.

As for Septage Revenue, Mrs. Webster reminded the Board that at the March 16 meeting, revenue had been down 3.1 percent over revenue one year prior. “Now it’s down only 1.1 percent,” she said, “so we’re closing the gap. I really think we’re going to do it again.” “Oh, we’re going to do it again,” said Mr. Thompson, referring to the record year of Septage Revenue of FY16. “Cash Receipts look good,” continued the Admin Assistant, “and we’ve actually collected more for Septage than we had at this time last year.”

The final report was the Septage Reconciliation for the Month Ending April 30, 2017.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Board members considered the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 16, 2017**. Commissioner Ellis made a motion to accept the Minutes as written, seconded by Chairman Searle. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pia Webster
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

Glen S. Searle, Chairman

Scott Ellis, Commissioner