

**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN  
BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2016**

**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

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown scheduled their Regular Meeting for Thursday, January 21, 2016, 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.**

Facilities Manager David Thompson announced that he had the figure for the amount needed from the Town for the Dock Street Hazard Mitigation Program Grant Project to satisfy the needs and desires of Robert B. Our Co., Inc., which had bid low for the project in conjunction with Fall River Electrical Associates: The final number was \$88,383.00.

**UPDATE: CONDITION ASSESSMENT/REPLACEMENT SCHEDULE PROJECT.**

Mr. Thompson related that representatives from GHD Inc. had visited the Facility “a couple of times” and that he had been busy sending GHD various and sundry documents to assist them in making graphs for the project. In a few days, at the New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA) 2016 Annual Conference & Exhibit in Boston, he said, he would see Marc Drainville, a civil and environmental engineer at GHD, as well as Ian Catlow of Tighe & Bond. The Facilities Manager also mentioned the success of his presentation on Edgartown’s nitrogen mitigation program for the Great Pond Watershed at the Small Community Specialty Conference in Sturbridge on November 18.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**REPORT: OAKDALE SEWER EXTENSION REQUEST.**

Mr. Thompson referred the Board members to an e-mail dated January 8 that he had written to Brian Dudley, an environmental engineer with the MassDEP Southeast Regional Office and the DEP contact for the Massachusetts Estuaries Project. In his e-mail the Facilities Manager had outlined his own analysis of arguments for and against laying sewer main in the Oakdale area, where inquiries had been “fairly insistent.” Because it seemed likely that the parties involved would be submitting a proposal to the Board of Waste Water Commissioners, the Facilities Manager had thought it prudent to prevail upon Mr. Dudley for his opinion.

In his e-mailed response dated January 11, Mr. Dudley had agreed with Mr. Thompson’s reservations about the project, stating that “the [T]own should be looking at a long term plan for areas to be connected and what the impact may be on Edgartown Great Pond... A comprehensive plan ... should be encouraged.”

Mr. Thompson said that the inquiry itself was being made by Andrew J. Farrissey of Farrissey Tele-Comm Inc. on behalf of a number of property owners. It appeared there were “some deep pockets” in the community, and absent sewer, some of the lots were restricted to two bedrooms.

Responding to a question from Commissioner Scott Ellis, the Facilities Manager said that the idea would be to have the entire area tie in at once. Is there any advantage? inquired Commissioner Sean E. Murphy. “The advantage to the Town is free infrastructure for the Town,” replied Mr. Thompson. The discussion wound down.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**FACILITIES MANAGER’S REPORT.**

The Facilities Manager went over a letter dated January 19 he had written to Brian Dudley of MassDEP that contained details of a biannual staffing update required by Discharge Permit No. SE #4-24. “According to the Northeast Guide for Estimating Staffing at Public and Privately Owned Wastewater Treatment Plants (2012), the Edgartown Facility requires 6.19 operators,” read the letter. “I’ve got six,” said Mr. Thompson, “and I’ve got four licensed operators ... and I expect Joe Rock to get his license this spring.”

For the record the licensed operators were: David Thompson, Facilities Manager, Grade 7-C; Stephen A. Vancour, Operator, Grade 7-C; Jeremy R. Osborn, Operator, Grade 6-C; and Theodore M. Van Gerven, Operator, Grade 4-M.

The Facilities Manager presented his draft Notice for the Sale of Surplus Scrap Metal, inviting bids for the three roll-off containers that had been replaced in 2013. Referring to the metals market, Mr. Thompson remarked that “the bottom has fallen right out,” adding that the Chinese “are actually closing out mines.” A possibility was that the M.V. Refuse District or R.M. Packer Co. would take them and patch them up. Another consideration was that winter ferry rates were

low and the successful bidder would “get a break on haulage.” He added that he had sent this draft over to Procurement Officer Juliet Molinare for her input.

Lastly, Mr. Thompson reported that the finalized Warrant Articles for the April 2016 Town Meeting, as well as the FY17 Operating Budget, had been submitted to the Town Administrator.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Admin Assistant Webster referred to an e-mail from Gail Avakian, Assistant to the FinCom, indicating that the committee had voted to recommend the Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles and the FY17 Operating Budget submitted by the Waste Water Department.

The Admin Assistant briefly went over the materials that she had distributed to the FinCom members and the Selectmen when she, Mr. Thompson and Commissioner Ellis had met with them on January 7. Those materials included two reports, “Hauler Septage and Sewer User Revenue Figures” and “FY13 – FY16 Sewer Billing Results.” The Admin Assistant reported how Selectman Arthur Smadbeck had appeared to give the nod to the growth in the FY17 Operating Budget by pointing to the expected \$300,000 growth in overall Department revenue.

In addition, Admin Assistant Webster presented the Cash Receipts Report as of January 21, 2016, as well as a full Financial Statement of the Secondary Clarifier Drives project as of January 25, 2016. Regarding the latter, she noted that \$3,833.40 of the final payment to R.H. White Construction would come out of the FY16 Operating Budget because Article 62 of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting Warrant asked for only \$140,000.00 when about \$3,600.00 more than that was expected to be needed.

Moving on to the Year-to-Date Operating Budget Expenditures Report, Mr. Thompson pointed to the two lines printed in blue – Equipment Maintenance, at 119 percent spent, and Repair/Replace Equipment at 76 percent spent – both of which had been hit hard in the current fiscal year. Also severely depleted were the Equipment Hire and the Solid Waste Removal Contracts Accounts, printed in green.

The Facilities Manager reminded the Board that at the April Special Town Meeting the Department would be requesting \$20,000 from Free Cash to replenish the Repair/Replace Account “for expenditures in FY16 at the Wastewater Facility to help defray the \$51,806.31 cost of emergency replacement of electric supply cable at the Dock St. Pump [S]tation.” They would also be seeking \$20,456 for “additional sludge cake disposal due to high septage receiving volume and a rise in disposal costs in FY16.”

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

Admin Assistant Webster drew the Commissioners’ attention to a **proposed amendment to the Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 3, 2015**. She had noticed, she said, a mistake in the first sentence in the section Meeting Called To Order on page 1, where November 3, 2015 is described as being on a Thursday. November 3, she said, fell on a Tuesday. If that amendment were accepted, the Admin Assistant added, the word “Amended” should be inserted at the top of page 1 under “Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 3, 2015.”

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to accept the amendments as presented, with Commissioner Ellis offering a second. The motion carried, with Commissioners Ellis and Murphy voting aye and Chairman Searle abstaining because he had not attended that meeting.

The Board members considered the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 12, 2015**. Admin Assistant Webster pointed to a change in the binder copies of the minutes on page 1 in the Meeting Called To Order section. This had been a *Regular Meeting*, she said, and the copy she had e-mailed them had *Special Meeting* written in that paragraph. She had corrected it since.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the minutes with the clarification, seconded by Commissioner Murphy. The motion carried, with Commissioners Ellis and Murphy voting aye and Chairman Searle abstaining because he had not attended that meeting.

Lastly, the Board members took up the **Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 19, 2015**. Commissioner Murphy made a motion to accept the minutes as written, and Commissioner Ellis provided a second. The motion carried, with Commissioners Ellis and Murphy voting Aye and the Chairman abstaining because he had not attended that meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Searle asked for a motion to adjourn, offered by Commissioner Murphy and seconded by Commissioner Ellis. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Chairman Searle adjourned the meeting at 4:23 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