



## TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

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

#### **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 21, 2016**

#### **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. David Thompson, Facilities Manager  
Mr. Stephen A. Vancour, Operator  
Mrs. Pia Webster, Administrative Assistant

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Marc Drainville, P.E., Project Manager, GHD Inc.  
Ms. Anastasia Rudenko, P.E., GHD Inc.

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

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown scheduled their Regular Meeting for Thursday, July 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. Chairman Glen S. Searle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. He stated he would begin with the first item under New Business, before the presentation by GHD engineers.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **DISCUSSION: REQUEST FROM JAY'S SEPTIC SERVICE TO EXTEND SEPTAGE ACCEPTANCE SCHEDULE.**

Jason Araujo, owner of Jay's Septic Service, had come before the Board to make a case for extending the Facility's septage acceptance hours to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Mr. Araujo suggested that the Department could have the on-call operator stay an extra hour. With the Facility opening at seven, he explained, he would have to be pumping at

five or six in the morning to take advantage of the early start, something his customers would not appreciate; otherwise, he would have to pump the day before and let the waste sit. Generally, he said, he could get to the Facility by eight or nine. If the Station were open until four, though, he thought he could “get in an extra job or two a day.” And it would be only in the summer, he added, when business was brisk.

Chairman Searle thanked Mr. Araujo and asked if there were any questions. “I’m not in love with this,” declared Facilities Manager David Thompson. “We’d have to have someone hang around on the chance someone comes ... and only in the summer, but that’s when we’re getting *slammed*.” Mr. Thompson related that during the high season the holding tank tended to get over capacity. “I *need* the 16 hours overnight to empty the tank,” he said.

The Facilities Manager continued: “If you’re sitting at the gate at seven, you can discharge right away... If you look at our numbers, this is the *one* time of year I don’t want more loads.” Mr. Thompson went on to spell out how less than five percent of the total influent at the Plant was supposed to be septage; so he did not want to encourage the dumping of even more septage during the summer. Moreover, he stressed, the total nitrogen figure for July 12 had been over nine milligrams per liter, three times the usual level, with exceptionally high levels of ammonia on July 11 and 12.

Mr. Araujo conjectured that the unusually heavy pumping he had done in the Mattekessett area in early July might have “skewed the numbers.” He was just requesting, he reiterated, that the Station stay open an hour later. Chairman Searle inquired whether Jay’s Septic was the only hauler interested in the extra hour of septage acceptance. What about Araujo Brothers? the Chairman wanted to know. “Probably,” answered Mr. Araujo. “It would have to be for everyone,” said Administrative Assistant Pia Webster, “to be fair.”

Chairman Searle then asked for a motion to take Mr. Araujo’s request under advisement. Commissioner Scott Ellis provided said motion, seconded by the Chairman. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. The Chairman said the Board would take up the issue at the next Regular Meeting. Mr. Araujo thanked the Board members and left the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**PRESENTATION: PLANT EVALUATION AND CONDITION ASSESSMENT  
REPORT FROM GHD INC. ENGINEERS.**

Engineer Marc Drainville of GHD Inc., Project Manager for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Plant Evaluation and Condition Assessment, stated simply that one, the Facility had a permit that was up for renewal soon; and two, the Plant was at the end of its 20-year life expectancy. Mr. Drainville handed over the presentation to his associate, engineer Anastasia Rudenko, who went through the process undertaken to arrive at the report’s conclusions.

The “driver” of that process, began Ms. Rudenko, was the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the improvements to the Plant that MassDEP would require prior to the 2020 renewal of the Facility’s permit. The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) thus developed would provide a phased approach for maintaining the infrastructure of the Plant,

instead of maintaining it “reactively.” The study included, she said, both the Waste Water Treatment Facility and the major Pumping Stations.

Ms. Rudenko continued with an explanation of how the Criticality of Projects had been determined by defining and rating the Likelihood of Failure (LoF) and Consequence of Failure (CoF) of its components and then plotting the ratings on a Risk Assessment Matrix. The cell at which the vertical (LoF) axis met the horizontal (CoF) axis determined the Criticality of the Project (Low-Medium-High-Very High). To illustrate the CoF range of Negligible-Marginal-Critical-Catastrophic, she provided the mundane examples of, respectively, a dishwasher, a washing machine, a refrigerator and a septic system.

Noting that almost all of the Plant’s components were over 20 years old, Ms. Rudenko said that one could expect many of them to have Criticality rating of High or Very High. The engineer then went over some details of an excerpt of a Criticality Analysis, which prioritized the replacement of the individual components of the Plant. Next she presented a Project Costs table, which laid out a Seven-Year Plan for the necessary individual capital improvements; and last was a Capital Improvement Projects Capital Costs bar figure showing annual costs in 2016 dollars for each of the seven years.

The question of the total cost in adjusted dollars arose, and Admin Assistant Webster provided that: \$9,168,000. “That’s without interest,” she said. “At 20 years, you can’t say you didn’t expect it,” remarked Mr. Drainville. As for the next step, he reminded the Board that the report was currently in draft form and would be finalized based upon staff and Commissioner comments.

Mr. Drainville continued that the study had been “a good starting point.” In addition, although it was not a permit requirement, he said, the draft report included a section on the Massachusetts Infiltration and Inflow (I/I) Plan requirements. The Findings of an I/I Analysis; a Recommended Plan; and a Schedule to Proceed were due on or before December 31, 2017.

Chairman Searle wanted to know if all of the projects were part of the plan. “Not Dock Street,” replied Mr. Thompson, “plus one macerator.” These would be taken care of by the end of Fiscal Year 2017, he said. The Facilities Manager added that these projects had been taken out of the Seven-Year Plan because “we’ve got a gun against our head to do them.”

Mr. Drainville observed that one factor not considered in the initial upgrade had been capacity. “The most limiting factors,” Ms. Rudenko pointed out, “are septage and the secondary clarifiers.” Operator Stephen A. Vancour inquired whether the Department should weigh the idea of installing of a 140,000-gallon septage holding tank. “Or what about an inter-municipal septage acceptance agreement?” he suggested, to help pay for infrastructure that benefited all Island towns. Or higher dumping rates for waste from other towns? proposed Mr. Vancour.

Admin Assistant Webster responded, “We had that. It was a disaster.” She added that a few years back under the older system with a special rate for Edgartown, when her 1,000-gallon Edgartown septic tank had been pumped, it went down in the hauler records at the Plant as 3,200 gallons of lower-priced Edgartown waste. That was not atypical, she added.

Mr. Drainville asked if the Island had a workable waste water permitting system. Yes, replied Mr. Thompson. A discussion ensued regarding how a linkage could be made between what came to the Station and where it came from. The Town of Edgartown would have to begin to include gallonage on its permit for the system to work, stressed the Facilities Manager.

Mr. Thompson then declared, "We're victims of our own success." He continued that 18 to 19 percent of the solids now came from septage, with a huge block of that in the summer. It needs to be spread out more throughout the year, he said. Mrs. Webster mentioned that in FY16 the septage acceptance volume figure had stayed somewhat higher all the way through December. Mr. Thompson added that the Facility needed "at least a 50,000-gallon equalization tank for septage." A discussion followed about the options available to expand capacity in that area.

The subject returned to the Massachusetts Infiltration and Inflow Plan requirements. "I asked Marc [Drainville] about I and I," said Mr. Thompson. "I asked him to come up with a proposal. Every plant in the Commonwealth has to come with one of these." "Yes, get it in the budget," said the Chairman. "Absolutely," echoed Commissioner Ellis. Mr. Drainville wondered if there would be a fall Town Meeting. No, answered Mrs. Webster, it would have to wait until April.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT.**

Mr. Thompson reported that on June 2 that Wiese-Flo mechanical bar screen had "failed us repeatedly." Mr. Vancour, he said, had "Rube-Golberged" it back to functionality. In other news, on June 27 total septage acceptance volume had hit 1.9 million gallons for the fiscal year. The Facilities Manager indicated that during the high season in the Town of Tisbury, when a particular level was reached, the receiving station was simply shut down for the day, a practice that perhaps those at this Facility ought to consider.

Referring to the item about Operator Jeremy Osborn's being granted his Grade 7 certification, Commissioner Ellis asked if Mr. Osborn had solved his housing situation and would be staying on with the Department. "Right now it's looking good," replied Mr. Thompson, who added that Operator Joseph Rock had passed his Grade 4 test.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Mrs. Webster briefly went over the FY16 Operating Budget Expenditures Report, noting that a total of \$17,500 had been transferred via Chapter 77 from the Salaries and Wages section of the budget to the Expenses section; Special Town Meeting Article 14 had supplemented the Equipment Maintenance account by \$15,000 and the Solid Waste Removal Contracts account by \$20,456; and a Reserve Fund Transfer had augmented the Equip, Repair, Replace & Upgrade Equipment account by \$20,000. Funds remained in all three sections of the budget, she said.

Moving on to the Capital Accounts, Mrs. Webster detailed what had been spent thus far of the Town's Share of the Dock Street Pump Station account as well as the Pump Station Grant account, remarking on the \$88,393.20 that had been added to the Town Share account through Article 60 at the Annual Town Meeting. She also pointed to the new accounts created for the

\$17,000 Replace Valves account (ATM Article 62) and the \$72,000 Repair Bar Screen account (ATM Article 63).

As for Cash Receipts, said Mrs. Webster, FY16 set records, with Sewer User Charges collected totaling \$1,220,990.82; Septage Receipts, \$433,353.57; and Septage Permits, \$10,850.00.

Mrs. Webster turned to the FY16 Income and Expense Summary, which, she said, bore out the Department's continued progress in the direction of financial self-sufficiency, with Total Income of \$1,710,229.89; Total Expenditures of \$2,000,304.93; and a deficit of -\$290,075.04. She remarked that when activity at the Plant quieted down, the Board and staff ought to meet to discuss fiscal policy, since this was an element that had to be factored into any discussion of the summer septage acceptance volume issue.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

The Board members considered the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 26, 2016**. There being no comments or amendments offered, Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Chairman Searle. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The Commissioners took up the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 30, 2016**. There being no comments or amendments offered, Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Chairman Searle. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Searle asked for a motion to adjourn, which Commissioner Ellis provided. The Chairman offered a second, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Chairman Searle adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



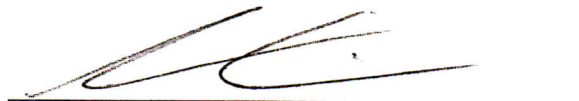
Pia Webster  
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS  
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN



Glen S. Searle, Chairman



Scott Ellis, Commissioner