



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 16, 2015

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
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, July 16, 2015, 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: HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM – MEMA.

Facilities Manager David Thompson related that he had spoken with David Woodbury, Hazard Mitigation Grants Program (HMGP) Coordinator of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, who had assured him that the Dock Street HMGP grant could be extended beyond the current expiration date of June 2, 2016. It was unlikely, though, that the agency could provide further funding for the project. So Mr. Woodbury had recommended that the Department look to the Town for additional money.

Next, Mr. Thompson continued, he had had a follow-up conversation with Ian Catlow of Tighe & Bond after the bids for the project had come in so high. As a result, he said, they had been thinking “along two parallel tracks.” The first approach would be to reject

all bids and to adjust the scope of work to reduce the overall cost of the project. The scope could be tweaked by: (a) having the EWWTF crew install a bypass connection (saving \$15,000 to \$25,000); (b) retrofitting immersible-grade pumps onto the existing ones (\$30,000 to \$50,000); and (c) substituting for the proposed VFD starters ones that ran at a constant speed, thereby lowering initial cost and possibly cutting cabinet size.

Explaining the first point, Mr. Thompson said it appeared that a bypass might already exist in the area of the project, probably as part of a 1996 upgrade. He would be exploring this further. Commissioner Scott Ellis wondered, If this were the case, would excavation still be necessary? Yes, answered Mr. Thompson. Commissioner Ellis was also curious to know if the electronics would still be moved to the back of Town Hall if the immersible-grade motor swap idea could be used. Mr. Thompson explained that their idea was to run fiber control with it and put a new control panel above it, keeping another one on the shelf in case the first one failed. In the long run, he said, this might be cost-effective. As for running the pumps at one speed, Mr. Thompson said that way the controller would not have to be wired up at Town Hall.

The other possibility, Mr. Thompson went on, had been to ask the low bidder, Robert Our, to honor his offer through a November Special Town Meeting, when more funds could be voted for the project. This possibility, though, had already been vetoed by the Town Administrator. So for now the plan was to get the cost of the project down and to see if they could continue to work with Mr. Our.

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORT: NEWS OF THE 139 MEETINGHOUSE WAY DEVELOPMENT.

The Facilities Manager provided an update on the 139 Meetinghouse Way Development proposal. [See pages 3-4 of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 28, 2014.] He related that a man named Robert Clark had approached him about building a subdivision on the 54-acre property (Map 37 Lot 47). Mr. Thompson had passed on to him that the Commissioners were in favor of sewerage a 50-lot subdivision that had been proposed earlier and that although they had encouraged the other interested party to pursue the sewerage of the project, they were in no way passing judgment on the suitability of the project itself.

The Facilities Manager continued that he had told Mr. Clark that the same problem persisted, namely, that the property did not directly abut Meshacket Road, even though the project's proposer intended to tie into the sewer main running down that road and avail himself of the services of the Meshacket Road substation. Mr. Thompson added, "There's capacity in the pump station, not necessarily in the main."

The Facilities Manager explained further that the parcel in question abutted the property that the Town intended to develop for affordable housing (38 Meshacket Road, Map 28 Lot 225). So one possibility was to buy a sewer-line easement to Meshacket Road from the Town, thus perhaps raising money for the Town's plans. Mr. Clark's people were also talking about set-asides for open space, Mr. Thompson said.

REPORT/BOARD GO-AHEAD: PURCHASE OF 2016 FORD F-350.

Facilities Manager Thompson reminded the Commissioners of the Board's policy that Mr. Thompson keep them informed of large purchases. The latest was the 2016 Ford F-350 ordered through MHQ for \$47,780 for which \$48,000 in funds had been voted through Article 72 of the April 2015 Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Thompson noted that the Town had a new Procurement Policy with lower thresholds. In addition, the new Procurement Officer had "taken it upon herself to shoulder the research," he said.

Commissioner Ellis wanted to know how long it would take to fulfill the Department's order, considering that a similar order from the Fire Department was expected to take 20-plus weeks. Mr. Thompson said he had not heard.

OTHER BUSINESS:

FACILITIES MANAGER'S ANNUAL EVALUATION.

Chairman Searle and Commissioner Ellis conducted the Annual Performance Evaluation of Facilities Manager David Thompson, awarding him performance ratings of four ("Exceptional") in all categories. Administrative Assistant Pia Webster asked to speak and remarked that Mr. Thompson should be commended especially for having kept the Department running smoothly while being short one, sometimes two crew members throughout the entire year.

Commissioner Ellis praised the Facilities Manager for his technical expertise, and the Chairman applauded Mr. Thompson's oversight of the Facility during a near-record year for septage acceptance, despite being shorthanded.

Chairman Searle and Commissioner Ellis recommended that Mr. Thompson receive his merit raise. The Chairman filled in the Annual Performance Evaluation form and signed it.

FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT – JUNE 2015.

The Facilities Manager described June's monthly nitrogen average of 1.56 milligrams per liter as "absolutely stunning." "We're back on track to do that again," he remarked, adding, "The plant is doing well."

Mr. Thompson reported that on June 3 the Wiese-Flo screen had experienced "a major fail." He explained that the failed metal part had to be "re-fabricated." "We've been nursing it along," he went on, "but it may not last long enough for the Condition Assessment."

On June 25 the Facilities Manager had conferred on the topic of the Mullen Way proposal with Brian Dudley, Head of Wastewater Management for the Cape Cod Office of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Southeast Regional

Office. Also, the Dock Street Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project sub-bids had been opened that day.

FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Admin Assistant Webster pointed to pages 19 and 41 of a MUNIS Budget Expenditures Report, indicating that as of that day, there were \$16,324.52 remaining in the Salaries and Wages Accounts and \$18,725.43 total left in the Operating Budget Accounts. Page 26 of the same report showed that the Solid Waste Removal Contracts Account was currently running a deficit of only \$3,060.00, after a total of \$15,000 had been transferred into it, \$5,000 from Article 10 at the Special Town Meeting in April and a \$10,000 Chapter 77 transfer from Salaries and Wages.

In addition, Mrs. Webster went over details of a Draft FY15 Cash Receipts Report, as well as the Cumulative Septage New Revenue by Category Report for Fiscal Year 2015, which showed a less than 1.2 percent drop in New Revenue when compared with the record year of FY14.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ellis offered a motion to adjourn, with the Chairman providing a second. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pia Webster
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN



Glen S. Searle, Chairman



Scott Ellis, Commissioner