

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

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 24, 2021  
CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

**WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Glen S. Searle, Chairman  
Mr. Scott Ellis, Commissioner  
Mr. Walter A. Morrison, Commissioner

**EWWD STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. William G. Burke, Facilities Manager  
Ms. Jennifer Smyth, Department Assistant, Meeting Host  
Mrs. Pia Webster, Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Dr. Dina Ben David, Owner, One Mariners Landing Unit A  
Mr. John F. Breen, 6 Orran Norton Way  
Ms. Robin A. Breen, 6 Orran Norton Way  
Mr. David Parent, David Parent Construction  
Mr. Sam Taugher, Staff Engineer II, Tighe & Bond

**PREFATORY REMARKS**

This being a teleconferenced meeting, Admin Assistant Pia Webster read into the record a prepared statement titled "Introduction to Teleconference," which outlined the Governor's Executive Order and Post-Emergency Bill of June 16, 2021; and included cautionary words about the public nature of the video conference, as well as the means by which those listening in could obtain copies of the materials being discussed.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. via the Zoom teleconference app. At 3:00 p.m. Chairman Glen S. Searle called the meeting to order and read into the record a written statement titled "Teleconference Meeting Ground Rules." Public comment would be allowed in this meeting during the New Business section, the Chairman announced. Also present from the

Board were Waste Water Commissioners Scott Ellis and Walter A. Morrison. The Chairman welcomed Commissioner Morrison to his first Regular Meeting of the Board.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.**

Commissioner Ellis nominated Chairman Searle to be the Chairman of the Board of Waste Water Commissioners until the 2022 Town Election. Commissioner Morrison provided a second. The Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Morrison, Aye; Mr. Searle, Abstaining.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**REPORT: SAM TAUGHER ON PROGRESS OF CIP PROGRAM PROJECTS.**

Mr. Sam Taugher, Staff Engineer at Tighe & Bond, reported on progress at the Chase Road Station Upgrade worksite, noting that the following Monday would be the startup date for the Cornell pumps. Also, surface electrical installation was proceeding this week. Over at the Dunham Road site, the electrical enclosure and the generator were being installed on the concrete pads. In addition, piping and valving installation in the Dunham Road pit were complete, the piping had been painted, and the pumps had been started up seven days earlier, without any issues being reported. Lastly, the patch along South Water Street had been paved, and L&L Fabrication had installed the access ladder.

Regarding the SCADA upgrades, said Mr. Taugher, 75 percent of the design drawings had been delivered to Facilities Manager William G. Burke earlier in the week. Asked to comment by the Chairman, Mr. Burke said he was very aware of the progress at the pump stations and he was hoping work would be finished by the Fourth of July.

**NEW BUSINESS [Continued]:**

**REPORT/DISCUSS/VOTE: DINA BEN DAVID – REQUEST FOR INCREASED FLOW FOR MEDICAL SPA AT ONE MARINERS LANDING UNIT A (MAP 21 LOT 34.224).**

David Parent of David Parent Construction introduced himself as owner Dina Ben David's contractor and explained that he wanted to add three hand-washing sinks and one basic-mop sink to Unit A at One Mariners Landing so that Dr. Ben David could open a medical spa offering beauty treatments. Chairman Searle confirmed with Mr. Burke that this proposal would use less flow than the grab-and-go food operation that Shane Tank of Premier Chef Services had proposed for the same unit. Mr. Burke said that the food operation would have used 600 gallons per day (gpd) of the 890 gpd left in reserve for the entire One Mariners Landing complex.

The Facilities Manager explained that he and the Chief Operator had looked at the flows calculated under Title 5 and that the business type closest to what Dr. Ben David had described was a medical office, to which MassDEP assigned a flow of 250 gpd, just 100 gpd more than the 150 gpd assigned to the office space originally planned for Unit A. So Department Staff had no objections to this proposal.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the request for increased flow for a medical spa at One Mariners Landing Unit A, seconded by Commissioner Morrison. The Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Morrison, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

**REPORT/DISCUSS/VOTE: JOHN F. BREEN & ROBIN A. BREEN – REQUEST FOR SEWER TIE-IN AT 6 ORRAN NORTON WAY (MAP 20A LOT 104).**

John F. Breen said his home was at a fork with Norton Orchard Road and his septic system was 41 years old. Living at 6 Orran Norton Way full-time since 2019, he and his wife had concerns about the high water table. The lot next to them – 57 Norton Orchard Road – was tied in. Robin A. Breen said that contractor Andrew Farrissey seemed willing to work with them.

The Facilities Manager pointed out that there was, in fact, a three-foot strip of land between 6 Orran Norton Way and 57 Norton Orchard Road (a piece of Map 20A Lot 103.2 – 8 Orran Norton Way). The line to 57 Norton Orchard, installed by Miguel Gordon, who worked for Andrew Farrissey at the time, was terminated in the front yard. It was, in fact, a lateral.

Staff had no objection to the Breens connecting, Mr. Burke continued. However, they could not connect to the lateral at 57 Norton Orchard – this not being good procedure – but instead would have to go out in the street to tie in to main. Currently, the sewer main ended in front of 63 Norton Orchard Road (Map 20A Lot 51). So there was capacity in the line; but the point at which they would tie in was some distance away. A discussion ensued about the length of the run, as well as expected costs.

The Facilities Manager stressed with the Breens that whatever plan they came up with for their tie-in needed to be submitted to and approved by the Department. Commissioner Ellis made a motion to grant the Breens the ability to connect 6 Orran Norton Way to the wastewater system, once they had submitted their tie-in plans to, and had those plans approved by, Department Staff. Commissioner Morrison provided a second, and Chairman Searle conducted a Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Morrison, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

**REPORT/DISCUSS/VOTE: FY22 SEWER, SEPTAGE & MISC CHARGES RATES.**

Admin Assistant Webster referred to a list of the Miscellaneous Charge Fees for FY21, where she was recommending that the Off-Hours Pump-Out Fee be raised from \$150 to \$200 and the House Visit Fee for the first incident when the resident was determined to be at fault also be raised from \$150 to \$200. The reason was that in FY22, with the increase in hourly wage rates, including step bumps and the 1.5 percent cost-of-living adjustment, the three Operators who handled Septage Receiving and Call-Outs now had overtime rates that ran between \$41.04 and \$55.10 per hour. This meant that with the Town's share of FICA and Medicare taxes thrown in, any off-hours work that ran past three hours would cost the Town more than \$150, making the current fees inadequate to cover the Town's expenses for those services.

The Chairman asked if the suggested fees were in line with other Down Island Towns'. Ours are lower, replied the Admin Assistant. Commissioner Ellis made a motion in favor of the increased fees, seconded by Commissioner Morrison. Chairman Searle conducted a Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Morrison, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

Then Chairman Searle made a motion that Sewer User Charges and Septage Receiving Rates not be raised in FY22, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. The motion carried by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Morrison, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

**REPORT/DISCUSS/VOTE: TRACTOR LEASE WITH OPTION TO BUY.**

Facilities Manager Burke reminded the Commissioners about the Rapid Infiltration Beds Rehabilitation Project and reported that at the July Regular Meeting, Tighe & Bond would have ready a proposal for design, oversight and bid services. The project would probably start in October and finish three or four weeks later in November. To help maintain the beds from that point forward, Mr. Burke wanted to purchase a John Deere tractor for \$64,665 that he had found on the State bid list from its online procurement platform, where the prices ran considerably less than retail. The tractor would be equipped with a York rake, a six-foot bucket, a set of forks for unloading trucks, and a barrel grabber, this last replacing the current barrel hoist, which was due to be replaced at a cost of \$12,000 to \$14,000.

The Facilities Manager continued that the finance charge for lease-to-buy was, he believed, 1.65 percent per year. He listed some of the other amenities, like air conditioning, a heated seat, a radio and a two-year warranty. The tractor could also be used for snow removal. He pointed to a spread sheet in the binders with figures for various lease-to-buy options. This was how the Highway Department had purchased one of their machines some years ago, he said.

Chairman Searle asked if the Department would be better off simply buying the tractor outright. Mr. Burke replied that they would not be able to do that unless they went back to Town Meeting. Commissioner Morrison wanted to know if the Department could return the tractor if they had it for a year and then decided they did not use it that much. Yes, the lease could be terminated with no penalty, said Mr. Burke, adding that this was called a Non-Appropriation Clause. Responding to a comment from Commissioner Ellis, the Facilities Manager explained how the beds would need to be groomed regularly once the RIB Rehabilitation Project was done. The discussion continued, with Mr. Burke speaking in greater depth about the tractor's features.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion that the Facilities Manager work with the Admin Assistant, the Department Assistant and the Town Administrator to figure out the best, most economical way for the Department to purchase the tractor. Mr. Morrison provided a second, and the Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote: Mr. Morrison, Aye; Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT.**

Mr. Burke reported on the Dunham Road Station pump start-up and the fact that the generator was still not fully hooked up and was in need of a load-bank test. He had received the SCADA drawings from Tighe & Bond, and only some minor changes needed to be made. As he had said at an earlier meeting, he wanted to install SCADA at the other pump stations as a Change Order to the Chase Road and Dunham Road Pump Stations Upgrade contract, the amount of which they were allowed to increase by up to 25 percent. When he sent his comments back to Tighe & Bond and T&B sent the drawings to Fall River Electrical Associates, they could get a quote for

the work for the SCADA system. Mr. Burke spoke of the connection after the Fourth of July of the SCADA antenna at the Plant and the activation of the SCADA system at the Chase Road and Dunham Road Stations. The system would also bring in data from the Plant itself, like the RAS rate, the flow rate, and so forth.

Mr. Burke had a rough draft, he said, of the report on the infrastructure of the Morgan Woods and Vineyard Golf Club Pump Stations for the full-capacity analysis and Tighe & Bond's recommendations for improvements. He expected the M.V. Hospital group to be before the Commission in July; they had not yet made any payment into the escrow account, which was why they were not on that day's agenda.

Mr. Burke also reported that the \$37,000 toward the purchase of a truck provided for in Article 64 would go toward one of only two trucks available, a Chevy Silverado 2500 regular cab with a plow package, a bed liner, a 1500-watt inverter and a cross-bed toolbox. He was hoping for August delivery. The MACK Granite 64FR Roll-off Container Truck had a rail with a hairline crack that was getting replaced before delivery scheduled for July 12.

A new riding mower had been purchased; it had arrived the day before. Tighe & Bond was working on a proposal for design, oversight and bid services for the Schwing Pump Repair & Rebuilding Project approved under Article 66. Lastly, if the Commission approved the T&B SCADA Project design, oversight and bid services contract proposal in their July Regular Meeting, that project could be out to bid in August.

### **CHIEF OPERATOR'S REPORT.**

In Chief Operator Joseph Rock's absence, Mr. Burke reported, among other things, that: the new antenna had been installed at the Plant; repairs had been made at Morgan Woods; a complete Drain Count had been done at the Kelley House; the crew had completed an E-One diagnostics and repair class in Oak Bluffs; the sludge containers, as well as the primary clarifier tanks, had been patched by Serusa Built welding; and the floats had been re-installed at the Dock Street Station with help from ITS.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Admin Assistant Webster pointed to a report titled "FY21 Operating Budget Projections as of June 16, 2021 Revised," which she characterized as her attempt to figure out what major expenditures definitely remained, what possible expenditures could occur and the amount of estimated available funds. She noted that she had fattened up the Everyday Monthly Expenses figure to have enough for unexpected pipe repairs or the hiring of a hauler to clean up a mess because these things often seemed to happen the last week of June.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2021**, seconded by the Chairman. The motion carried by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye; Mr. Morrison, Abstaining. Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 27, 2021**, seconded by Mr. Morrison. The motion carried unanimously by Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Morrison, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

**CONSENSUS ON CONTINUING MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCE.**

After a brief discussion, it was decided that beginning with the October Regular Meeting, the Board would meet in person in the Big Room at the Edgartown Public Library.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Ellis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, and Commissioner Morrison offered a second. The Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Morrison, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 3:52 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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Walter A. Morrison, Commissioner