



# TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

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

### MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 17, 2022

#### WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

#### EWWD STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. William G. Burke, Facilities Manager  
Mr. Joseph Rock, Chief Operator  
Mrs. Pia Webster, Administrative Assistant

#### OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Chris Alley, Project Manager, Schofield, Barbini & Hoehn, Inc.  
Mr. Ian B. Catlow, PE, Vice President, Tighe & Bond  
Ms. Carol M. Grant  
Mr. Theodore A. Saulnier, Esq.

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. in the Program Room on the first floor of the Edgartown Public Library, 26 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, Mass. At 3:00 p.m. Acting Chairman Scott Ellis called the meeting to order. Also present from the Board was Waste Water Commissioner Walter A. Morrison. *[Chairman Glen S. Searle was obliged to attend another meeting and arrived at the Commission Meeting at 3:58 p.m.]*

#### OLD BUSINESS:

#### UPDATE: GREEN HOME PROJECT – 490 EDGARTOWN-VINEYARD HAVEN RD.

Chris Alley of Schofield Barbini & Hoehn related that the Green Home team had worked forward with an onsite solution of three advanced septic systems, a solution that was in front of the Board of Health awaiting the granting of variances. Also open was a hearing before the Planning Board for zoning considerations, suspended pending action by the MV Commission. And the MVC had closed its hearing and returned the application to the Land Use Planning Committee, which had delivered its recommendations. The applicant was expecting

deliberations by the full commission that evening. The MVC's mitigation requirements regarding the Sengekontacket Pond Watershed, he noted, were being worked out by upgrading other single-family homes in the area.

Talks with the Waste Water Department were kept open, said Mr. Alley, since if in the future the opportunity presented itself to return to the solution of installing onsite their own pump station and equalization tank after upgrades of the Vineyard Golf and Morgan Woods Pump Stations, they would still want to be able to pursue that. They could be well into construction and still go back to the original plan, he added. They would return to the December Regular Meeting with an update on the hearing results. Mr. Alley answered questions from Ian B. Catlow of Tighe & Bond about the three advanced systems planned by the Green Home team, as well as the mitigation monitoring program.

**UPDATE: IAN B. CATLOW OF TIGHE & BOND ON CIP PROJECTS.**

Mr. Catlow reported that Tighe & Bond's **oversight of the installation of the two-inch line for the five-lot Division Road subdivision** was complete and that all reports were in. On the **SCADA Systems Upgrade Project**, work continued to set panels, conduits and conductors at the Plant. "Panels," though was an ambiguous term, he noted. Although they had the stainless-steel boxes into which the electronics would be installed, they didn't have the PLCs and other controllers that would go into the boxes. Also, at the Visitors Center there was an agreement with the VTA to put a control panel with the human-machine interface inside a locker on the back of the building. Lastly, Sam Taugher and Dan Roop of T&B had walked around with Department Staff at Vineyard Golf and discussed the SCADA installation there with VGC staff

Regarding the **Dewatering Sludge Pump Hydraulic Pack & Control Panel Replacement Project**, they were getting the power pack and pump control panel for that. Tighe & Bond had completed the shop drawings, and the installation contract with Pride Environmental needed just one more signature. The **Rapid Infiltration Beds Rehabilitation Project** was completed, and T&B had just received the Final Application for Payment from Lawrence Lynch Corp. that day.

As for the **Asset Management Planning** and the **Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan Projects**, the T&B team had visited the Island and collected data, including from the Health Department on septic systems, as well as on all pump stations, from which they generated a list of recommended projects. Over the next month, Mr. Catlow said, they should have enough information and time to get a preliminary build-out analysis done that would show what kind of flow, roughly, could be gotten from the Sengekontacket Watershed and what could be gotten further from Katama Bay, and then what was still committed from the Great Pond Watershed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**REPORT/DISCUSS: CAROL M. GRANT, CLAIM RE: JULY 21, 2022 BACKUP AT 79 SOUTH SUMMER STREET (MAP 29B LOT 9).**

Carol M. Grant of 79 South Summer Street laid out an enlarged plan of the sewer infrastructure in the area of her residence, including gravity main, laterals and manholes. She recounted the events of July 21, 2022 that began with a backup in her system and a call to her plumber and ended with more than \$16,000 in invoices and the problem still not fully resolved. In speaking

with neighbor Peter Braun of 10 High Street, she had learned that in a similar situation in August 2014, he had paid nothing for what had apparently been considerable work; the Town had paid. In sum, Ms. Grant did not feel that the expense of fixing the backup was her responsibility. In response to a question from Commissioner Morrison, Ms. Grant said that Grant Bros. had installed all the piping. Discussion ensued, during which it was established that the blockage had been in the lateral.

According to Staff, it looked as if the 2014 incident involved the tree roots coming down into the Town's part of the system at the saddle. So the Town should have assumed responsibility for the saddle and that part of the repair; but the rest of the repair should have been the homeowner's responsibility. The assumption by the Department at that time of all expenses associated with the backup had not been a judicious decision. Ms. Grant said the Department could not treat her differently from the way it had treated Mr. Braun. Moreover, some of work she was being billed for stemmed from a problem in front of her neighbor's house. There was some discussion of why Ms. Grant's lateral was longer than those of her neighbors.

Acting Chairman Ellis said he wanted to wait until he had the full Board present before making a decision on this matter. The discussion turned to what ultimately would have to be done to fix the problem at this site. It was agreed that for the December Regular Meeting, Ms. Grant would get prices for the replacement of her lateral from a few contractors, so that the entire cost of the job could be determined.

**DISCUSS/VOTE: REQUEST FOR TIE-IN – 22 CHASE RD (MAP 20A LOT 70).**

The Commissioners reviewed a map of the section of Chase Road where it met Pinehurst Road upon which Keith Fenner had indicated where he had shot a lateral from the 1¼-inch force main in front of 32 Chase Road over to 29 Chase Road and then had brought the force main down to Pinehurst, taking the sharp right turn toward West Tisbury Road. The Board was considering a request to tie in from Dean A. and Kay M. Shimer of 22 Chase Road. Chief Operator Joseph Rock stated that the line had the available capacity and answered questions about the location of the main. Acting Chairman Ellis made a **motion to grant the Shimers' request to tie in 22 Chase Road**, seconded by Commissioner Morrison. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**REPORT: GAP III ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING.**

Facilities Manager William G. Burke reported that the State had not yet announced the grant awards under the Gap III Energy Grant Program.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT.**

Mr. Burke gave a brief Facilities Manager's Report, then moved to a document dated November 17, 2022 titled "Edgartown Recommended One Year Projects" from Ian Catlow, Daniel Roop and Austin Weidner of Tighe & Bond. The document listed 18 projects totaling \$4.5 million. Mr. Burke said that he, Mr. Catlow and Mr. Rock had gone through the list and eliminated items amounting to \$332,000; so the total was, in fact, \$4,168,000. The Facilities Manager said he felt

most strongly about Item No. 13, Plant Water Pumps and Strainer for \$465,000; and Item No. 14, Dewatering System, Complete Upgrade for \$1,565,000. Acting Chairman Ellis said he was willing to leave it up to Mr. Burke's discretion as to which items to include in the Capital Programs request. Mr. Burke suggested that the Commissioners set a not-to-exceed figure that he could use in his negotiations with the Town Administrator.

Commissioner Morrison asked about the redundancy in Item 13 of two Duty, one Standby in view of the CWMP and the sweeping changes that might be in store as a result of its findings. Mr. Catlow explained that in this particular instance it came as an integrated skid from off-Island. Mr. Burke stressed that anything proposed would be used if the Plant were expanded to a third Carrousel and a third clarifier. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Catlow went over how the Heating & Ventilation Upgrades (Item No. 16, \$1,000,000) would address the odor issues in the Ops Building. He also explained how the CWMP was looking at wastewater flow and that any upgrades proposed would be based on the projected 20-year future flow.

Acting Chairman Ellis made a **motion to give Mr. Burke the authority to pick out what he needed from the list of 18 items and to negotiate with the Town Administrator, with the total spent not to exceed \$4.5 million.** Commissioner Morrison provided a second, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

*[Chairman Searle had arrived at this point, 3:58 p.m.]*

The Facilities Manager then asked the Commissioners to vote on a joint Capital Programs request with the Highway Department of a John Deere cutter. The price that day, he said, was \$125,661.00. Mr. Burke confirmed for Chairman Searle that this piece of equipment was the one that Highway could use on the bike path and could get over to Chappaquiddick. Acting Chairman Ellis made a **motion to buy a John Deere tractor jointly with the Highway Department,** seconded by Commissioner Morrison. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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

Chief Operator Joseph Rock reported that it had been a busy month, mostly because so many contractors had been on campus. Two of the pump stations – Meshacket and Morgan Woods – had needed float repairs. Responding to a question from Acting Chairman Ellis, Mr. Rock said that recent hire Curtis Robart viewed his position as a career move and was going for his license the following week. Importantly, Mr. Rock said, Mr. Robart was learning Operator work. Recently, he had installed a new time meter for Aerator No. 1 by himself, with Mr. Rock just explaining the process to him.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Admin Assistant Pia Webster noted that all of the reports on Capital Account spending were up to date. Also, with the influx to new permits finally slowing, she was finding the time to begin the process of updating all of the Munis Sewer User Charge Accounts in preparation for annual billing.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

There being no questions or comments, on a motion by Acting Chairman Ellis, seconded by Chairman Searle, the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2022** were approved by voice vote, with Chairman Searle and Acting Chairman Ellis voting aye and Commissioner Morrison abstaining because he had not attended that meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Acting Chairman Ellis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, which Commissioner Morrison seconded. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pia Webster  
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS  
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN



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Scott Ellis, Acting Chairman



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Walter A. Morrison, Commissioner