

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

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2023**

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
Mr. Joseph Rock, Chief Operator
Mrs. Pia Webster, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ms. Carol M. Grant
Mr. Robbie Robinson, Waterfront Builders Inc.
Mr. Daniel O. Roop, PE, Project Manager, Tighe & Bond
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, March 16, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. in the Program Room of the Edgartown Public Library, 26 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, Mass. At 3:00 p.m. Chairman Glen S. Searle called the meeting to order. Also present from the Board were Waste Water Commissioners Scott Ellis and Walter A. Morrison.

OLD BUSINESS:

REPORT/DISCUSS: CAROL GRANT CLAIM RE: 04/21/22 BACKUP INCIDENT.

The Board took up the matter of the claim of Carol M. Grant of 79 South Summer Street (Map 29B Lot 9), where a backup had occurred in Ms. Grant's lateral albeit 14 feet from her property line. When Ms. Grant asked about the format of the session, Admin Assistant Pia Webster said the Commissioners had a list of all expenses already billed as well as the estimates for further repair work from Fenner Construction and Tim Creato, along with copies of the bills and estimates, plus a site plan and background materials. Chairman Searle related that when a similar incident had occurred nearby at 10 High Street in 2014, the Highway Superintendent and the Facilities Manager had been obliged to listen

to then-Town Administrator Pamela M. Dolby. The current Board of Waste Water Commissioners, however, had not been part of that, he stated. Ms. Grant said that when she had spoken to current Town Administrator James M. Hagerty, he had suggested splitting the bill. Since the three bills she had already paid totaled nearly \$17,000, she hoped for the possibility of the Department's paying Tim Creato the estimated \$14,000 for his work.

Ms. Grant clarified that all infrastructure under her property itself was in working order. But there was lateral in the street off her property running to the sewer main that needed to be repaired by Mr. Creato. Chief Operator Joseph Rock explained that Mr. Creato's estimate was for work from the property line to the tie-in directly at the manhole, a significantly shorter run than the current one. Commissioner Morrison said he needed some time to get the full picture.

The Chairman suggested having the Department pay for half of Mr. Creato's bill. A discussion ensued. Commissioner Morrison was concerned that paying for the repairs would set a standard that would make the Department liable if a similar situation arose in the future. There was some disagreement about whether it should be Ms. Grant or someone from the Department that should approach, for instance, the Highway Superintendent about procuring services to save some expense.

Ms. Grant pointed out that in the case of 10 High Street, the Town had even worked on the owner's property itself; she was not asking for that. The Chairman again stressed that this had been under the leadership of a different Town Administrator. Ms. Grant emphasized that at the time of the backup she had done everything that Department Staff had suggested. Commissioner Ellis thought they should talk to Mr. Hagerty first to see if and how he was willing to help. Commissioner Morrison urged Ms. Grant to schedule the repair, regardless of the source of funding, since Memorial Day was drawing near. The Commissioners agreed that the Department would work with Mr. Creato to help sort out possible supplemental assistance from, as an example, the Highway Department.

Chairman Searle made a motion to continue the 79 South Summer Street Backup Matter until the April Regular Meeting. There was no second. Commissioner Morrison said that matter should be taken up when Ms. Grant had new information to offer, and the others agreed. Ms. Grant thanked the Board members for their time and consideration.

UPDATE: TIGHE & BOND ON CIP PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE CWMP.

Reporting on the **Asset Management Planning Project**, Daniel O. Roop, Project Manager at Tighe & Bond, said they had been working on the vertical project groupings and rankings. As for the **Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan**, they were looking at capacity studies and flow analyses. For the **Penn Valley Sludge Pump Project**, T&B was finalizing plans and specs. They would advertise in the *Central Register* on March 22; so the package would be available for download on March 30. Following a three-week bid period, the bid opening would be set for the morning of Thursday, April 20, with the April Regular Meeting slated for that afternoon.

Reporting on the **Schwing Pump Project**, Mr. Roop said the targeted shipment date was March 31, with the pump expected onsite in early April. It was hoped, he said, that the Schwing Project and the Penn Valley Pump Project would share the same installer, since this would result in economies of time and expense. Pay Requisite Number 10 from Fall River Electrical Associates for the **SCADA Upgrades Project** had just been submitted. Returning to the CWMP, continued Mr. Roop, Tighe & Bond, Staff and the MV Hospital group had been meeting, working on buildouts and alternatives

analysis and discussing the offsets based on the loading calculations. On Tuesday a meeting for an update had been set with T&B, EWWTF Staff, the MV Hospital group and Mass DEP.

Commissioner Morrison noted that T&B had offered a clear bedroom count figure based on septic. Would there be a clear figure based on what the difference would be if Ocean Heights were to be sewer? he asked. Yes, said Mr. Roop, Jessica Cajigas-Smith's tables had an allowance for that. She would be reporting on that in much more depth in the April 20 Meeting, he added.

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORT/DISCUSS/VOTE: REVISED SECTION 2 OF THE BEDROOM REGULATION.

Mr. Burke presented a proposal, which was to add the B-I and B-II Business Districts to Section 2 of the Bedroom Regulation. At the same time, he said, there were two active applications before the Commission involving residences – 254 Upper Main Street and 56 North Summer Street – which he proposed be “grandfathered,” that is, exempt from the amendment to Section 2 being considered.

Commissioner Ellis made a **motion to amend the Bedroom Regulation by adding the B-I and B-II Business Districts to Section 2**, seconded by Commissioner Morrison. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Chairman Searle made a **motion to grandfather the applications of 56 North Summer Street and 254 Upper Main Street, making them exempt from the amendment to Section 2 of the Bedroom Regulation just voted**. Commissioner Ellis offered a second, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Mr. Robbie Robinson of Waterfront Builders Inc. asked for some clarification of the second motion, which the Chairman provided.

REPORT/DISCUSS/VOTE: FY23 SEWER USER CHARGES ABATEMENT NO. 2.

Admin Assistant Webster reported that the single FY23 Abatement Request this month was from Edmund Willoughby, whose property at 30 Curtis Lane (Map 20A Lot 96) had had the water service shut off at the street since November 19, 2019. Mr. Willoughby had asked for the entire invoice amount of \$395.00 to be abated. Commissioner Morrison made a **motion to abate off \$395.00 from the FY23 Sewer User Charges for 30 Curtis Lane (S0872)**, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS:

FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT.

Facilities Manager Burke reported that the SCADA Upgrades Project was just about done; Mr. Rock had been making a list of issues that still needed to be addressed. As for the Septage Receiving Station, the grit screw had been delivered to Pride Environmental, which would be delivering it to the EWWTF the following Monday for installation. The septage pit itself had filled up, and the pump had died. A replacement couldn't be ordered until the pit was pumped out and the crew could see what was there. That was still being worked on, and it looked as if Truax would have to be called in. Septage Receiving would probably be closed for three weeks longer.

The Chairman suggested that Mr. Burke order two replacement pumps instead of one, to have one on hand, should the pump again fail. The Facilities Manager agreed.

CHIEF OPERATOR'S REPORT.

Chief Operator Rock related that the first weekend in February a water pipe had burst in the Office/Operations Building and that on-duty Plant Operator Sebastian Corwin had handled well the cleanup and, later, the repair of the pipe. Some technicians from Andritz had visited the Plant to evaluate the Belt Filter Press; some functionality issues that could be addressed had been pointed out. Mr. Rock also described how he, Mr. Burke and the Plant Operators had worked with Fall River Electrical Associates and ITS on the SCADA Upgrades Project over a three-week period.

FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Admin Assistant Webster reported that the FY23 Annual Sewer User Charges bills had gone out on February 24. Although the burst pipe incident had destroyed the big printer, with the fast delivery of a replacement plus the efforts of new Department Assistant Cristina Zghibarta, the mailing had been delivered only six days later than originally planned. Mrs. Webster was concerned, she said, by a situation developing in the Collector's Office, where the payments were not being processed at an acceptable rate. So beginning Monday, Ms. Zghibarta would work at the Collector's for part of each day to help with the backlog.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, which Commissioner Ellis seconded; the motion carried. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pia Webster
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

Glen S. Searle, Chairman

Scott Ellis, Commissioner

Walter A. Morrison, Commissioner