

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Date of Meeting: December 10, 2020
Date of Transcription: December 22, 2020
Transcribed by: Christiana Robbins

1. MEETING TO ORDER

Chairmen Giberti called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Sewer Commissioners Present: Sandra L. Slavin
James R. Giberti
Malcolm R. White
Donna M. Bronk
Sewer Commissioners Absent: Peter G. Dunlop
Also Present: Guy Campinha, Super Intendent
Russ Kleekamp, GHD Engineer

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. October 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to accept the meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Bronk seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0

B. November 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to accept the meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner White seconded.

VOTE: 3-1-0

SEWER BUSINESS

1. Contract Renewals

A. South Shore Generator

The contract presented to the Sewer Commissioners, was a renewal for South Shore Generator for \$13, 535. This renewal is good for two (2) years.

MOTION: Commissioner Bronk motioned to accept the contract renewal.
Commissioner Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0

B. Multi-State Electric

The Board of Sewer Commissioners reviewed a contract renewal for Multi-State Electric service and materials work at the Water Pollution Control Facility.

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to approve the Multi-State Electric services and materials work at \$90/hr. for the Water Pollution Control Facility.
Commissioner White seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0

C. DR Warren Enterprises

The Board of Sewer Commissioners reviewed a contract for \$650 per month for the rental trailer, used as offices at the WPCF.

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to approve the DR Warren Enterprises Office Trailer Rental Renewal for \$650 per month. Commissioner Bronk seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0

2. Wright-Pierce: Narrows Force Main Replacement

The Board of Sewer Commissioners reviewed a contract for \$187,000. This will allow a new contract to continue with the completion of the design of the force main from the Narrows Pump Station to the Water Pollution Control Facility. The project will be capital funded.

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to accept the contract renewal.
Commissioner White seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0

3. Increased Flow Discussion

Mr. Campinha wanted to allow for clarification of the moratorium the Board of Sewer Commissioners issued regarding new tie-ins to the sewer system. Mr. Campinha said if somebody had a sewer lateral and the building demolished, the person would have a right to put a building back up, because that flow is already accounted for.

4. GHD Sewer Modeling

Mr. Campinha began the discussion by explaining the Buzzards Bay Coalition received a grant to model the entire Town of Wareham sewer system. The Water Pollution Control Facility is contributing \$30,000 out of the Wal-Mart fund for the project. The model will include every sewer line, pump station, and manhole in Wareham to have a better understanding of the sewer system. The model will show strengths and weaknesses to better assess areas where flow may be added, or areas contractors will need to address.

Engineer Russ Kleekamp from GHD continued the discussion by explaining the model is “beneficial” to the Town, as well as the fact it is a straightforward assessment. This model will avoid doing a long assessment of the downstream pump stations and pipes. The model allows water to be poured into a manhole, and when the model is run, it will visualize the overwhelmed pipes and what manholes are surcharging. This will allow for rapid and effective indications of any overwhelmed infrastructure for any sort of performance development. Mr. Kleekamp continued speaking on the model and that it is effective for proposed systems, especially if there is an area that is being looked at for expanding. Mr. Campinha stated that the Water Pollution Control Facility is looking at expanding in our [WPCF] Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) along Route 28 and along the Agawam River. He stated that by looking at bringing Gateway Shores into the model, we [WPCF] would be able to see what the system can handle and design it properly. This will be important for when the Water Pollution Control Facility seeks permission to expand the flow into the river. Mr. Campinha said they [DEP] would make the WPCF “off-set” the gallons into the river. The model will show how areas would connect to the system as well as what the impact would be to the sewer system.

Mr. Kleekamp continued the discussion by showing the Board of Sewer Commissioners an example of the model from the Town of Harwich on Google Maps via Zoom screen sharing. Mr. Kleekamp said the manholes are put in and when the manhole is clicked on information regarding the invert depth, manhole size, and the flow in and out of the manhole. Pipes can also be viewed and the flow inside of the pipe will be displayed, which can show the remaining capacity, which is a tremendous tool. Commissioner Slavin brought up Appendix A in the packet, because it gives a brief description on what they [GHD] will be doing, on top of providing water usage, she asked about a time period. Mr. Campinha answered Commissioner Slavin by

saying he believes we [WPCF] got more than one (1) year of data, but he will review the information again to be sure. Commissioner White asked about while things change and someone must update them, is Wareham on a “preferred customer list”. Mr. Kleekamp responded by informing Commissioner White that GHD does models for many towns, and if a new development (1-2 new developments) comes online, it is easy and efficient to update. He also said GHD designs for proposed sewers and always update accordingly. Mr. Campinha said it will eliminate the controversy of impact studies and people claiming ‘it doesn’t want to get done’ by bringing consistency. Wareham will be responsible for \$30,000 and the Buzzards Bay Coalition is responsible for \$25,000.

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to approve the GHD Sewer Modeling for \$30,000. Commissioner Bronk seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0

5. Grant Discussion

Mr. Campinha described this grant as “involved, intense, and timely” that contains a lot of information, as well as save anywhere between \$1 million and \$1.5 million. Mr. Kleekamp said there has been multiple grants through the CZM (Coastal Zone Management) to propose improvements to the Narrows, Hynes Field, and Cohasset Narrows Pump Stations. These pump stations are in the flood plain and some improvements to the stations will help in making them more flood-proof during the event of a natural disaster, coastal storm, or any other type of extreme weather events. Mr. Kleekamp continued his presentation by discussing the funding through CZM. He says the funding through CZM is for the final design of the project, and they are “shovel ready”. The design and permits are done, and CZM informed GHD (engineering company) of a new funding opportunity through FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) called ‘Bric’ (Building Resilient Infrastructure Communities). Mr. Kleekamp also said he believes Massachusetts received around \$44 million from a national grant that was divided among the states, for this exact type of project. However, there is a catch. The Town of Wareham must have a Hazard Mitigation Plan, which they are close to getting. The document is awaiting final comments from FEMA, but the Board of Selectman must adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Kleekamp said the grant is a 75% grant, and the Town of Wareham must match the other 25%. He then shared his zoom screen and showed the Board of Sewer Commissioners a spreadsheet broken into four (4) columns. From left to right the columns read ‘Narrows’, ‘Hynes Field’, ‘Cohasset Narrows’, and the final one being ‘total’. The spreadsheet also had multiple rows for the cost of things such as structural costs, electrical, site work, general conditions, and more. Mr. Kleekamp discussed the

‘Cost Subtotal’ which was displayed in a light gray row, which then followed him explaining the total cost of the project would be \$2.2 million. The 75% that CZM would fund is \$1.650 million, and the Town of Wareham will need to come up with \$550,000. Mr. Campinha said there could be a vote at a Town Meeting regarding grants and once papers are completed, this can be treated as a contract and get a match found.

Mr. Kleekamp gave a brief look at a presentation given a while ago, regarding the pump station advancements. He showed pictures of what exactly the “100 year flood” and other weather events would do to the pump stations, but he also showed improvements that could slow down the effects. Some improvements shown to flood proof doors, interior metal bracing (in the event of water levels and hydrostatic pressure, which can collapse the station), carbon fiber reinforcements for the Cohasset Narrows station, and larger fuel tanks in the generators, to get a full 48 hours runtime in the event of an emergency.

MOTION: Commissioner Bronk motioned to support the grant and authorize the \$550,000 matched grant. Commissioner Slavin Seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0

6. SEWER SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Campinha began with talking about the Littleton Drive map but shifted his focus to Woodland Cove for a short minute to discuss the project. He mentioned the plans for Woodland Cove have to go back to planning and change the planning, due to the fact they [Woodland Cove Developers] have a new connection higher up. After discussing the Woodland Cove changes, he began talking about Littleton Drive. Mr. Campinha said no decisions relating to Littleton Drive have been made, however he is hearing many discussions regarding items like grinder pumps for the development. He says the grinder pumps will keep rags out of the sewer system by not allowing them to gravitate towards the Water Pollution Control Facility. Commissioner Slavin spoke on information that was presented to the Zoning Board relating to the Woodland Cove project that is being done on a phase-by-phase basis. She said Phase Two (2) will become Phase One (1) due to the occupancy predicament. A short discussion arose regarding zoning and the gravity main that would be used. Commissioner Bronk asked about the Dakota Company owning the property and Mr. Campinha said they do not. He said a purchase of sale is in and they [The Dakota Company] are waiting for money from state housing to do the project, because it is considered mass housing. Commissioner Slavin and Mr. Campinha discussed documentation regarding the estimated Wastewater flow. Chairman Giberti said various departments should be coming to the Board of Sewer Commissioners in the very beginning regarding projects and getting approval on whether or not sewer is available to them. The Board would like to remind the

other departments of the moratorium that is out. A discussion between the Board of Sewer Commissioners and Mr. Campinha continued.

Mr. Campinha continued his report to the Board with some short points. He said four (4) WPCF employees are out with relations to COVID-19 testing, and informed the Board of Sewer Commissioners this may cause documents and other timely matters to become slower. He continued his report by mentioning the equalization basins (EQ Basins) are coming along great. Next, Mr. Campinha mentioned Mirror Cove is completed, and a final review of all of the videos is being done to make sure it is acceptable. Mr. Campinha said the permits are doing fine, and the new maintenance manager, as well as the lab tech are doing great and adjusting to the team well. He then mentioned the Kleinfelder Contract and the work that is being started. He claims they will walk and drive the proposed drilling path to see what obstacles may be in the way, and it will be a total of 10,000 feet. The Board of Sewer Commissioners and Mr. Campinha quickly discussed a water-based system and the components to compose one eventually.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS (Unanticipated Items)

- A. Town Charter-
- B. Sea St. –
- C. Sump pumps –
- D. Stone Path – Commissioner Giberti said he had a meeting with Stone Path and gave them an industrial permit, which they told him would be returned. He also said the space in the back is looking at being leased to the Minkle Brothers, to do catering. Chairman Giberti said he also asked about grease traps because they will need big ones. Commissioner Bronk claims Stone Path is not “playing by the rules” and to keep a “close eye” on them. Mr. Campinha said the issue is following protocol, procedure, which is not being done currently.
- E. Houses not connected to Town Sewer – 52 homes are left to connect from a list of 85. Twelve (12) people decided not to pick up their notices, which prompted Commissioner Slavin to ask what the difference is between undeliverable notices and not picked up? Mr. Campinha informed her that undeliverable is when the mailperson says it cannot be delivered and it is then sent back, whereas not picked up is the mail has been delivered, but it can stay there.
- F. EDU Rates – Commissioner Slavin said she thought the Board of Selectman was going to help the Sewer Commissioners receive the water usage numbers. Patrick Tropeano (liaison) has not yet said anything to the Selectman about the Board of Sewer Commissioners requesting help. Chairman Giberti said he will have to find him and see where he is on the EDU Rate information.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Odor

Commissioner Bronk asked about the odors in certain areas of Wareham. Mr. Campinha said he met with Weston and Sampson, whom is hired by the town, to do an evaluation. He said they [Weston and Sampson] agreed that there needs to be some type of metering in the wet-well, as well as discuss changing the pump rate because it will go stagnant depending on flow rate. Mr. Campinha said they also discussed cleaning the force main to remove many materials, and he ordered a monitor for the manhole to constantly watch the hydrogen sulfide levels (H₂S). Mr. Campinha said Bourne is taking responsibility for their part of the work.

B. Town Counsel

Commissioner White asked if Chairman Giberti had a chance to meet with Town Counsel or anyone else whom would be able to help with the sewer commitments that were made and have been unused for a long period. Chairman Giberti said there was no answer from the Town Counsel, however he will revisit him the week of 12/14-12/18 2020. Mr. Campinha asked if there should be an application fee, to which Commissioner Bronk told him to give the Board of Sewer Commissioners a cost of what he finds appropriate for the work. Commissioner White brought up that the Board will need a policy in place, and Chairman Giberti agreed having a policy is the "safest" way to go about this.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

January 14, 2021 6:30 p.m. Zoom

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Bronk motioned to adjourn. Commissioner White seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0

Meeting adjourned 8:03 P.M

Respectfully submitted,

Christiana Robbins

Department Assistant

Attest: 

Sandra L. Slavin, Clerk

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Date Signed 1/20/2021

Date sent to the Town Clerk _____