

## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

Date of Meeting: August 4, 2016  
Date of Transcription: August 15, 2016  
Transcribed by: Rebecca Benitez-Figueroa

### **1. MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman White at 6:30 pm.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

Chairman Giberti appointed Commissioner Donna Bronk as Clerk, pro temp

Sewer Commissioners Present: James R. Giberti, Chairman  
Donna M. Bronk  
Peter G. Dunlop

Commissioners absent: Malcolm R. White  
Susan J. Sweeney

Others Present: Guy Campinha, Sewer Superintendent

### **3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

a) July 28, 2016

**MOTION:** Commissioner Dunlop moved that the minutes be corrected to include discussions regarding odor issues. Commissioner Bronk seconded.

**VOTE: 3-0-0 (Unanimous)**

**Note: Meeting Minutes to be resubmitted with corrections.**

### **4. SEWER BUSINESS**

a) Further Discussion on Fall Town Meeting Warrant Article – transfer of funds from Retained Earnings to FY17 WPCF Budget - \$800,000. (Voted to submit on July 28, 2016)

Mr. Campinha explained that submission of the article would be from WPCF and not an article submitted by the Board of Sewer Commissioners. Discussion ensued as to the amount in the Retained Earnings account. Mr. Campinha stated that the accounts have not been certified by the auditors; however, the Town Administrator stated that there are funds available and it would be from the uncertified account. Mr. Campinha explained that the amount certified in Retained Earnings at the last town meeting is the amount that is available as there have not been any expenditures from the account since Town Meeting.

Commissioner Bronk requested copies of monthly financial reports from the Town indicating receivables, expenditures and balance in accounts. Chairman Giberti agreed that there should be monthly reports from the Town submitted to the Sewer Commissioners and suggested that the

## SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 8/4/2016 (CONT'D)

information as to what is actually available be presented before the Board takes any vote on both of the articles.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Dunlop moved that both articles for submission for the Town Meeting Warrant be tabled until the exact funds available in Retained Earnings are provided. Commissioner Bronk seconded for discussion.

Questions regarding financial reports from the Town as to amounts available in the WPCF accounts were discussed. The information to be obtained from the Town Accountant and/or the Director of Finance.

**VOTE: 3-0-0 (Unanimous)**

b) Discussion of Submission of Article for Fall Town Meeting Warrant – transfer of funds from Retained Earnings - \$250,000.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Dunlop moved that both articles for submission for the Town Meeting Warrant be tabled until the exact funds available in Retained Earnings are provided. Commissioner Bronk seconded.

**VOTE: 3-0-0 (Unanimous)**

### **5. SEWER SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### 1) Septage disposal rate for Town of Plymouth

Mr. Campinha requested that the Board vote to change the septage disposal rate for the Town of Plymouth to 9¢ per gallons as was voted previously by the Board for other surrounding Towns. It was omitted from the discussion at the July 14, 2016 meeting.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bronk moved that to reduce the septage disposal rate to 9¢/gal for septage received from the Town of Plymouth. Commissioner Dunlop seconded.

**VOTE: 3-0-0 (Unanimous)**

#### 2) Sewer Usage Bills

Mr. Campinha announced that the bills will be mailed on August 8, 2016.

#### 3) Telephone problems at treatment plant

Mr. Campinha reported that problems with telephone system at the treatment plant continue where calls are not getting through and the computers are also problematic. Matthew Underhill of the IT department is aware of the situation and is working on rectifying the problem.

#### 4) Hazardous Mitigation Plan

Mr. Campinha reported that Sarah White and another representative from the Framingham office of MEMA will be meeting in Wareham with the Town Administrator, a member of the Board of Selectmen, Lt. Walcek, himself and perhaps a Sewer Commissioner regarding the Town's Hazardous Mitigation Plan.

### **6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS (Unanticipated items)**

#### a) Items for discussion at a future meeting:

- 1) F.O.G. Implementation
- 2) Report from Selectmen's liaison
- 3) Hybrid method for usage billing

## SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 8/4/2016 (CONT'D)

Chairman Giberti briefly mentioned the items 1-3 that will be discussed at a future meeting.

### 4) Update on Outfall/Regionalization

Mr. Campinha reported that a representative from Army Corp of Engineers office in Wareham on August 15, 2016 and a meeting will be held at Mass Maritime. He will tour the area. According to Representative Keating's office, the Army Corp of Engineers may not have any jurisdiction as the outfall will not be in navigable waters.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

Present before the Board: Anne Ames of 219 Sandwich Rd.

Ms. Ames spoke of the problems regarding odors. She stated that Mr. Campinha has been very cooperative and returning calls. She questioned why is the problem existing and what is being done about the odors.

Mr. Campinha explained about the survey being conducted by Tech Environmental at the pump stations, the plant and along the property lines. The real issue is that the plant has secondary treatment capabilities and not primary capabilities. The primary is required in order to remove the solids. The solids remain in the basin. The goal is to eliminate the open basins where raw sewage pours in and have primary clarifiers. In the interim, chemicals are being introduced into the basins, looking at some type of covering for the basins and also looking at a temporary 50,000 to 100,000 gallon tank where the solids will be redirected. The clarifiers could be 4-5 years away.

Discussion continued. Commissioner Bronk pointed out that the problem has existed for several years and also with the increase of sewer connections more septage is being sent to the plant therefore contributing to the increase in odors.

Dialogue continued with Ms. Ames. She questioned why more connections of homes and restaurants are being allowed. She also complained about the odors from the grease.

Mr. Campinha explained that the grease is coming from the restaurants and not from the grease that is being trucked into the plant. The implementation of the grease program and policy is to address the grease from the restaurants.

Chairman Giberti expressed that the Board understands the problems and concerns of Ms. Ames and her neighbors and that work continues to address the odor problems. It was suggested that a meeting with the residents at the treatment plant to explain in layman's terms the report of our chemist.

Commissioner Dunlop asked if the clarifiers are guaranteed to solve the problem. Mr. Campinha responded that the clarifiers are the best proven technology to remove solids. They will be covered and have an odor control system. Brief discussion ensued.

## 8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

a) August 25, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bronk moved to adjourn. Commissioner Dunlop seconded.

**VOTE: 3-0-0 (Unanimous)**

SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 8/4/2016 (CONT'D)

Respectfully submitted

**Rebecca Benitez-Figueroa**

Department Assistant

Attest: 

**Donna M. Bronk, Clerk pro temp**

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Date Signed: 9/26/2016

Date sent to the Town Clerk: 10/3/2016