

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

Date of Meeting: September 29, 2016  
Date of Transcription: October 4, 2015  
Transcribed by: Rebecca Benitez-Figueroa

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

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

### **2. ROLL CALL**

Sewer Commissioners Present: James R. Giberti  
Malcolm R. White  
Susan J. Sweeney  
Donna M. Bronk  
Peter G. Dunlop

**Note:** Absent: Guy Campinha, Sewer Superintendent (attending seminar out of State)

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

a) August 4, 2016 (tabled 8/25/16)

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sweeney moved to accept the Board of Sewer Commissioners July 28, 2016 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Giberti seconded.

**VOTE: 2-0-1 (Commissioner White abstained)**

b) August 25, 2016

### **4. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION**

Present before the Board: Anne Ames

Ms. Ames posed several questions:

a) any discussion regarding her letter dated August 26, 2016 requesting 90 day moratorium on accepting all grease with exceptions and no acceptance of septage from Plymouth and Middleboro until firm handle on odor problem.

*Response:* Commissioner Sweeney stated that this evening's meeting is the first meeting of the Sewer Commissioners since receipt of the letter. Chairman Giberti stated that her request will be discussed at a future meeting.

b) expressed concern as to hiring of Tech Environmental as the company was hired in 2011 as a consultant to address problems and the problems now appear worse. Why was same company hired?

*Response:* Board was not aware of the hiring in 2011 as they were not elected at that time and they relied on information being given to them by the previous elected Sewer Commissioners/Selectmen.

Brief discussion ensued whereas Commissioner Bronk questioned if Greasezilla is up and running. Commissioner Bronk expressed a lack of confidence that Greasezilla is running properly. Chairman Giberti stated that on the two visits approximately 3 weeks prior that Greasezilla was up and running but cannot state that if it was running properly. Commissioner Sweeney explained that the frac tanks have arrived and are being used.

c) questioned concern about a company that would take the telephone calls directly concerning odor complaints and that the company would come to the homeowner's property. She stated that the agreement is pending signing by the Town Administrator. Has report from Tech Environmental been received? Chairman Giberti stated that the day-to-day operation is with the Director.

Present before the Board: Howard Smith of Smith's Cesspool Service

Mr. Smith expressed his concern that is aware of many, many truckloads of grease being dumped into the headworks. He stated that he observed that approximately 5000 gallons of grease was being dumped into the headworks. Commissioner Dunlop questioned if it was a mixture of septage and grease. Commissioner Sweeney raised the possibility that the load tested more septage than grease. Chairman Giberti stated that these matters will be discussed when the Director returns.

## **5. SEWER BUSINESS**

### **a) Abatements**

1. 19 Fourteenth Ave – Account No. 791712, Map 59, Lot W302

**MOTION:** Commissioner Dunlop moved to deny the application for abatement for 19 Fourteenth Ave. – Account No 791712 as water service to the property was not shut off. Commissioner Sweeney seconded.

**VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

2. 247 Main St – Account No. 737441, Map 47, Lot 1145

**MOTION:** Commissioner Dunlop moved to deny the application for abatement for 247 Main St. – Account No. 737441 as there is no provision or criteria for a reduction to the EDU rate under the present policies. Commissioner Bronk seconded.

**VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

3. 35 East Blvd – Account No. 735230, Map 1, Lot LC3

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sweeney moved to grant the application for abatement for 35 East Blvd. – Account No. 735230 in the amount of \$298.00 for FY16 2<sup>nd</sup> half Sewer Usage Billing and \$298.00 for FY17 1<sup>st</sup> half Sewer Usage Billing for a total amount of \$596.00. Commissioner Dunlop seconded.

**VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

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

(none)

## **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS (Unanticipated Items)**

SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES - 9/29/2016 (CONT'D)

a) Discussion of grease disposal rate

Chairman Giberti informed the Board that Town Counsel stated that the Board may set different rates. Chairman Giberti recommended that the grease disposal rate for Wareham be reduced to 10¢ per gallon and the rate for all other communities to remain at 14¢ per gallon. Brief discussion ensued.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sweeney moved that the rate for grease disposal for the Town of Wareham be reduced back to 10¢ per gallon from 14¢ per gallon effective immediately. Commissioner Bronk seconded.

**VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

a) Review of Policies

1. Submission of Warrant Articles (#21)
2. Sewer User Rates (#22)
3. Abatement Evaluation Policy (#23)

After a brief discussion the Board, there were not any recommendations to make any changes.

**9. LIAISON REPORTS**

Chairman Giberti reported that the Board of Selectmen did not approve, at the present time, Articles #10 (\$170,000 for the 200,000 gallons holding tanks or #11 (\$200,000 for the force main inspections) on the 2016 Fall Town Meeting Warrant. The Finance Committee did approve both articles. The articles will be placed on the warrant; however, the Selectmen wanted more information before voting on their recommendation.

**10. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME**

The next meeting scheduled for October 13, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

**Note:** Commissioner Dunlop to email the following questions to Director Campinha for the next meeting: 1) How much money earned since Greasezilla has been on line; 2) cost to ship out grease not being processed by Greasezilla; 3) if Greasezilla is up and running, why isn't it running 24/7; 4) how many qualified people running the equipment?

**11. ADJOURNMENT**


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

**VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

Respectfully submitted,

**Rebecca Benitez-Figueroa**

Department Assistant

Attest: 

**Susan J. Sweeney, Clerk**

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Date Signed: 11/17/16

Date sent to the Town Clerk: 11/21/2016