

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Date of Meeting: March 11, 2021
Date of Transcription: March 22, 2021
Transcribed by: Christiana Robbins

1. MEETING TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman White called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Sewer Commissioners Present: Sandra L. Slavin
Peter G. Dunlop
Malcolm R. White
Sewer Commissioners Absent: James R. Giberti
Donna M. Bronk
Also Present: Guy Campinha, Super Intendent
Dan Minkle- Minkle Boys Catering

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. February 25, 2021

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to accept the February 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Dunlop seconded.

VOTE: 3-0-0

SEWER BUSINESS

1. Dan Minkle- Minkle Boys Catering

Dan Minkle joined the meeting with no video; however, he was audible throughout the discussion. Vice-Chairman White asked Mr. Campinha if he was able to provide a bit more information on the proposal. Mr. Campinha reminded the Sewer Commissioners the pump station's capacity is still the biggest concern. He also said 170 Mobile Homes are getting ready to go online for roughly 17,000 gallons per day. Mr. Campinha said he spoke with Chairman Giberti about not accepting "another drop" into the Kendrick Pump Station. Vice-Chairman White asked Mr. Campinha if the issues with the owner of the

building were “squared away” and Mr. Campinha said he got a test but it does not make any sense. He pointed out where the report says ‘Influent’ it is referring to water the building owner receives from the Town of Wareham, but numbers that high in Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) . Mr. Campinha said he checked with the Town and they said BOD that high is “unheard of”, and the Town is not allowed to have a BOD above 5 parts per million (ppm) in drinking water. Mr. Campinha continued and said the numbers just do not make sense to him and the report is not as clear as he thought it would be. Vice-Chairman White asked if the Board has absorbed the bill from the last impact study and Mr. Campinha reminded the Board of Sewer Commissioners they did pay for the impact study. Commissioner Dunlop commented the catering business is “negligible” and he does not think the capacity issue should enter into Dan Minkle’s business. Mr. Campinha explained to Commissioner Dunlop that there is capacity issues at the pump station and Dan Minkle going from Onset to a problematic pump station is a “totally different picture”. Commissioner Dunlop said he can exceed that point and Mr. Campinha is correct.

Commissioner Slavin commented that the water usage sheet from Minkle Boys Catering indicates he is looking at 700 gallons per day and she finds it hard to believe 700 gallons is going to make a big influence in that particular pump station. Mr. Campinha reminded Commissioner Slavin that she could take responsibility for the pump station because he will not. Mr. Campinha added we [Board of Sewer Commissioners] have committed flow and we are adding to it and do not know exactly what is happening [In the pump station]. Mr. Campinha and Commissioner Slavin continued their discussion about the businesses near the Kendrick Pump Station. Vice-Chairman White reminded the Board his problem with Stone Path is the Board of Sewer Commissioners paid for the impact study they were supposed to pay for. Commissioner Slavin said Stone Path “has nothing to do with this catering business”, but Vice-Chairman White said it does. He said it is in the same building and he has an issue with that. He continued and said we ended up doing the impact study and paying for it when the Board has not been reimbursed yet.

Mr. Campinha reminded Vice-Chairman White that GHD engineer Russ Kleekamp reported on the Kendrick Pump Station last meeting (2-25-21) and he said the pump station is tapped out. Mr. Campinha emphasized that Mr. Kleekamp was the engineer that was hired and paid to do the impact study.

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to further discuss the Minkle Boys Catering when a full board is present. Vice-Chairman White seconded.

VOTE: 2-1-0

2. EDU Discussion

Commissioner Slavin began the conversation by asking why duplex houses are listed separately than apartments, and Mr. Campinha told her that he could not answer that question because the list was made in 1996. For clarification, Commissioner Slavin asked if we [Water Pollution Control Facility] are charging them one (1) Equivalent Dwelling Unit or EDU, which is correct to Mr. Campinha. Vice-Chairman White said he believes nothing should be finalized until the Board of Sewer Commissioners get input from the board members. Mr. Campinha commented he is getting letters, emails and calls from single elderlies whom are not happy with the concept of .5 EDU for a bedroom. He said one gentleman wrote he is in a three (3)-bedroom home and he is alone. The man uses one bedroom as an office and one is used as storage. Mr. Campinha continued and said the gentleman feels that charge of paying for three (3)-bedrooms would be an unfair burden because he is not using three (3) bedrooms. Vice-Chairman White addressed the man Mr. Campinha was referring to and said he has three (3) bedrooms also and he is a non-user but he does not think Mr. Campinha can go case-by-case to address the issues.

Commissioner Slavin asked about the Newsletter going with the bills, and stated she believes the Board of Sewer Commissioners should have been able to look at the Newsletter and review it before it went out, and the Board should have been notified. Commissioner Slavin asked why the people of Wareham were not notified that the EDU's would be increased. Mr. Campinha told Commissioner Slavin he put the announcement in the Wareham Week Newspaper roughly two (2) to three (3) weeks prior. Commissioner Dunlop asked if there is anyone to delegate and look into some of the questions that will be asked. Commissioner Dunlop asked Vice-Chairman White if he would like to delegate the authority to someone to go around to each gas station and count the pumps, which have coffee shops/stores/delis, and get an actual number for the Town of Wareham. Commissioner Slavin said because Mr. Campinha is doing barber and beauty shops, Commissioner Dunlop can do gas stations. Vice-Chairman White said the Board could discuss the structure of what they have, and Mr. Campinha said the hardest part if "what is an EDU", what are they basing an EDU on? He then said he thinks that working on bedrooms and homes first and once those are established look at what the Board thinks that average flow is and then it can be reviewed and relate it to other businesses. Mr. Campinha then explained the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) charts that specifically relate to the businesses, what they do, and how many people go through how much each person would contribute to the wastewater. Vice-Chairman White and Mr. Campinha agreed starting at a single-family dwelling as a basis. The Board then discussed that a single-family dwelling was not specified in the 1996 schedule, but Mr. Campinha believes the estimated flow was roughly 300 gallons per day. Commissioner Slavin suggested tabling the discussion until the next meeting on March 25, 2021.

3. Special Spring Articles

Commissioner Slavin let the Board know she sent out the draft for the two (2) Special Spring Articles. One article is for \$500K for the two (2) generators, and one article is for \$11K to pay a bill.

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to accept the articles submitted for Special Springtown Meeting. Commissioner Dunlop seconded.

VOTE: 3-0-0

4. SEWER SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Campinha told the Board of Sewer Commissioners on March 25, 2021 Kleinfelder would be giving a presentation to the Sewer Commissioners about drilling to the Cape Cod Canal. The presentation will include what the drilling process entails, as well as other alternative methods that were looked at in depth due to bacterial concerns in the effluent and what the impacts would be, if any at all.

Next, Mr. Campinha spoke on the Kendrick Pump Station and the capacity issue. He said he is awaiting Mr. Bowen, the Town Counsel's answer about possibly upgrading the pump station to 1.5 million gallons. Mr. Campinha said the pump station is in trouble and cannot take any more flow. He also said the main focus and concentration needs to be upgrading that pump station.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS (Unanticipated Items)

- A. Sump pumps – Looking at Grinder Pumps in the Swifts Beach area to replace Sump Pumps.
- B. Houses not connected to Town Sewer –
- C. EDU Rates –

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

March 25, 2021 6:30 p.m. Zoom

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Slavin motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Dunlop seconded.


VOTE: 3-0-0

Meeting adjourned 7:14 P.M

Respectfully submitted,

Christiana Robbins

Department Assistant

Attest: 

Sandra L. Slavin, Clerk

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Date Signed 6/11/2021

Date sent to the Town Clerk _____