

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

Date of Meeting: May 11, 2023  
Date of Transcription: May 23, 2023  
Transcribed by: Christiana Robbins

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

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

### **2. ROLL CALL**

Sewer Commissioners Present: James R. Giberti  
Peter G. Dunlop  
Sandra L. Slavin  
Bernard Pigeon  
Robert Scanlon Jr.

Sewer Commissioners Absent:

Also Present: Guy Campinha, Super Intendent  
Russ Kleekamp, GHD Engineer  
Sarah Greenburg, GHD Engineer

### **3. ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Slavin created a set of Meeting minutes for the March 9, 2022 Workshop as well as the August 20, 2022 Swifts Beach Meeting.

Commissioner Slavin motioned to accept the September 15, 2022, January 26, 2023 and the March 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Dunlop Seconded.

**VOTE: 3-0-2**

## **SEWER BUSINESS**

### **1. Board Reorganization**

Chairman: Bernard Pigeon 4-0-1  
Vice- Chairman: James Giberti 4-0-1  
Clerk: Sandra Slavin 4-0-1

**2. Discussion and Approval of the 2023 Special Spring Town Meeting Article- Article One Construction Cost for the Clarifier and Headworks Upgrade**

The Board listened to a PowerPoint presentation by GHD Engineers Sarah Greenburg and Russ Kleekamp regarding the WPCF Headworks and Clarifiers Upgrade. The presentation began with a short overview from January 2015 when repeated Wet-Weather events that brought high influent and inflow levels which caused the WPCF to almost see a breach and overflow at that point in time. The 2018 Wet-Weather season with nor'easters was "really the driver" to being looking for mitigation measures. One mitigation measure was a CZM (Coastal Zone Management) assessment that funded the design of equalization basins four and five, which are both roughly 1.7 million gallons. In the same 2018 Wet-Weather events the denitrification filters, which are located right before the wastewater goes to ultraviolet disinfection, were extremely overwhelmed. The presentation continued regarding past weather events and past events that have caused the WPCF to push forward with mitigation measures.

The Headworks is the first part of the treatment process when the wastewater enters the facility and is screened for non-flushables (There is a list on the Town of Wareham Website under Sewer Documents for a list of Non-Flushables) as well as grit and other materials harmful to the equipment in the treatment process. The Headworks building equipment is beyond its useful life, which means rags and other objects end up in the treatment process downstream and clog up clarifiers.

The presentation continued stating specifics regarding Aeration Basins, Sludge Pumping, and possible discharge violations. The Board discussed Loan possibilities for the project as well as criteria that is required for a Loan for the project. There were also a few Questions from the Board members that were answered by the Engineers regarding things as Loan Debt Repayment, a possible meeting with Bourne as well as the Wareham Week. The presentation continued.

Commissioner Slavin motioned to approve and submit Article One for the Construction of WPCF Projects Clarifiers and Headworks Upgrade for \$36 Million. Commissioner Dunlop Seconded.

**VOTE: 4-0-1**

**3. Article Two- Rescind Article 15 from 2022**

Article 15 from the 2022 Annual Spring Town Meeting in the amount of \$3 million for the replacement of Swifts Beach Sewer lines to Ruggles Pump Station or to do or act in any manner there to relative there too.

Commissioner Slavin motioned to approver Article Two. Commissioner Dunlop Seconded.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

**4. Article Three- Three Million Dollars for the Failed Gravity Sewer Lines on Swifts Beach**

Commissioner Slavin motioned to accept Article Three is to take the \$3 Million and align it to a contract repair of the failed gravity sewer lines on Swifts Beach.

The Board discussed some project specifics such as depth and areas of the possible project.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

**5. Article Nine- Discuss and Vote Members Authorized to Approve Sewer Department Payment Warrants**

Commissioner Slavin motioned the Board approve Bernie Pigeon as the Primary Signer of the Sewer Departments Warrants and Jim Giberti becomes the Back-up. The board discussed some of the paperwork that would need to be signed as well as when it would need to be done.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

**6. Article Four- Transferring of Retained Earnings \$1.1 Million**

Commissioner Slavin motioned to approve Article Four for transferring of retained earnings to read the article to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$1.1 million from FY23 Water Pollution Control Facility FY23 Certified Retained Earnings to fund the non-state revolving fund loan portion of the WPCF Plant Upgrades that were approved under Article 18 of the December 14, 2020 Town Meeting or to do or act in any manner therefore in the explanation it will say what we have, who retained earnings, and what the balance will be if this article is passed. A second was given.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

**7. SEWER SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Mr. Campinha discussed the on-going sludge issue and the incinerators that are currently shut down. He also went into detail about the difficulty to find sludge disposal as well as sludge trucks for pumping. He discussed this issue for a few moments.
- Mr. Campinha also discussed the odor Control unit is back online but it was put in, around 1999 and it is part of the Headworks upgrade.
- He spoke on a Business Trip to Kansas City where he toured a 7.0 Million Gallon Per Day plant as well as some technology that may be able to help WPCF. He discussed some of the technology as well as where it may go and how it could help.
- Mr. Campinha spoke on issues with non-flushables such as hair clumps, rags, and more.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS (Unanticipated Items)**

- Only One Bid was received for a project
- Spent \$84,000 for an engineering firm to evaluate the Epoxy from China to see which option would be better for a project (Primus Liner)
- Finance Meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> Mr. Giberti was invited as Chairman, but now Mr. Pigeon will be invited as Chairman.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**10. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME**

May 25, 2023 6:30 p.m. Wareham Multi Service Center Room 320. 48 Marion Road  
Wareham, MA

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

Meeting adjourned 8:46 P.M

Respectfully submitted,

**Christiana Robbins**

Department Assistant

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sandra L. Slavin, Clerk**

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Date Signed 7/13/23

Date sent to the Town Clerk \_\_\_\_\_