

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING

November 17, 2011

50 Carby Street, Champagne Meeting Room

Minutes

2639

Mr. Antonellis called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Present: Mr. MacPherson, Mr. Antonellis, Mr. Connors, Mr. Angelo, Ms. Quiram, Mr. Michael Jaillet and Mr. John Grogan from the Finance Commission. Minutes were recorded by Ms. Fiske.

COMMISSION REORGANIZATION:

On a motion duly made by Mr. Antonellis, seconded and unanimously voted upon, the Commission membership was reorganized in the following manner:

James Connors – Chairman
Francis MacPherson – Clerk
Anthony Antonellis – Third Member

DEDHAM/WESTWOOD SEWER AGREEMENT:

Mike Jaillett, Westwood's Executive Secretary, came before the Sewer Commission to inform the Commission of a 1999 agreement established related to fees received from homes located in the Town of Westwood, next to the East Street Circle, that have sewage that discharges into the Town of Dedham's sewer system. At the time this agreement was signed, there were seven (7) homes under this arrangement and now this number has reached twenty-five (25) homes. To date, no sewer usage fees collected by the Town of Westwood have been paid to the Town of Dedham. Mr. Jaillett informed the Sewer Commission that he had been meeting with his peer from Dedham to discuss and negotiate this issue.

Mr. Connors expressed his confusion to Mr. Jaillett as to why the Commission and members of the Sewer Department, which is duly elected and charged with overseeing the Sewer Department, were just hearing about this for the first time from the Executive Secretary. Mr. Connors further asked if either Ms. Quiram or Mr. Angelo, the experts, were informed and/or involved in these negotiations. Mr. Jaillett did not directly answer the questions. Mr. Connors drew an analogy to Terry Francona and Mr. Jaillett.

Mr. Angelo recommended that the agreement include that the Town of Westwood should not be responsible for maintenance of the affected sewage system. Mr. Antonellis said the town that agrees to supervise maintenance of the system should receive a share of the sewer usage fees. The Commission stated that Mr. Jaillett should turnover these negotiations to Ms. Quiram and Mr. Angelo and that they would conduct the

negotiations. Ms. Quiram will work with Town Counsel on this contract and it will be submitted to the Commission for its approval.

Mr. Jaillet left the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

NEW SEWER USAGE BILLING SYSTEM:

Ms. Quiram informed the Commission that the next cycle of sewer usage bills that will be mailed out in December, will be produced using the new billing system.

RULES/REGULATIONS/STANDARDS:

The proposed document was posted for comment on the Town's website for one month and only received one response. Ms. Quiram, Mr. Angelo, and Mr. MacPherson will continue to review it and finalize it based upon Mr. MacPherson's approval.

On a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously voted upon, the Commission voted to authorize Mr. MacPherson to approve the final draft.

129 PORTER STREET-JOHN CARDELLI:

This residence is currently using well water for domestic use; town water and a second meter for irrigation. This property should have been billed for the flat well rate for the past 20 years.

Ms. Quiram informed the Commission that this account was correctly billed for a well rate on the September 14, 2011 billing, and the 2011 billing was paid in full.

The Commission would like to back bill the resident for 7 years of non-payment for sewer service in accordance with the law.

301 WASHINGTON STREET-JOHN CRONIN, COLD STONE CREAMERY

Mr. Antonellis recused himself on this matter and left the room.

John and Carolynne Cronin, owners of the business located at 301 Washington Street, contacted the town requesting a meeting regarding the sewer connection fee. It appears the charges that Mr. Cronin is protesting were charged by the Dedham-Westwood Water District, not the Town of Westwood Sewer Department.

Mr. Connors informed the Commission that he will speak with Mr. & Mrs. Cronin.

RATE LETTER:

The Sewer Usage Rate Letter was reviewed by the Commission; this letter will be inserted in the next billing quarter.

On a motion duly made, seconded and unanimously voted upon, the Commission approved the insert.

CDM UPDATE:

Construction for this project is expected to begin in the winter. Staff is working with CDM to complete the MWRA funding forms and construction documents. A schedule will be provided to the Commission when dates are set.

SEWER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET:

The Capital Improvement Budget consists of a vehicle for the Sewer Superintendent's use, the 2013 I/I Project, and a generator replacement. After Ms. Quiram described the need for a new vehicle for the Sewer Superintendent, the Commission informed the staff that if the Superintendent's current vehicle continues to need additional repairs, they will discuss funding the purchase of a new vehicle earlier the next fiscal year.

LIKE TO INVESTIGATE THAT

Mr. MacPherson said he would prefer that the entire I/I Project gets completed in one large task to save money. Mr. Antonellis said he would prefer to complete the project at a slower pace in order to handle the impact better. The Commission requested that they continue to review the figures and options. The options will be presented the options to the Commission at the next meeting.

Ms. Quiram requested that the Commission consider sharing costs on two projects from the DPW Capital Budget. We need to study whether the lining of the sewer system may impact the drainage system in the Pond Plain area. An investigation of the Sewer staff members sharing office space at the Carby Street DPW facility should also be studied. The Commission indicated that, if it is determined that the lining project has an effect on the Pond Plain Drainage Project, an appropriate shared percentage should be funded with Sewer funds.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Mr. Antonellis requested to discuss the vacant position in the Sewer Department.

Respectfully Submitted,



Clerk