



**TOWN OF KINGSTON**  
*Office of the Sewer Commission/Wastewater Department*  
26 Evergreen Street  
Kingston, MA 02364

781-585-4058  
781-585-5874 FAX

Elaine A. Fiore  
Peter C. Cobb  
Thomas W. Taylor, Jr.

**MINUTES**  
August 11, 2009

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Sewer Commissioners was called to order by Elaine Fiore at 7:00 PM. Members attending to night were Elaine Fiore and Peter Cobb.

Department bills were signed for \$11,099.25 for repairs needed due to the power surge on July 11, 2009, \$4676.88 and \$1190.00 for the excavation of the sewer stub at 163 Summer Street.

The Board reviewed and signed Lien Release forms for properties that have paid of their betterment assessments.

F.R. Mahony provided an updated cost estimate to supply the remaining grinder pumps needed to complete Phase 2 sewer connections. The contract has expired but the will continue to supply the pumps if the Sewer Commission agrees to the new price. The original price was \$2305.00 and will be increased to \$2695.00. The Board had no objection to the new price.

The Board reviewed a building permit application for 44 Cole Street. There were questions regarding the existing and intended use of the home. The plan provided was vague. It appears on the assessors' card as a 2 bedroom home but there are 6 or 7 people living in the home. The Board asked that the permit be held pending more information.

MOTION, by Elaine Fiore, seconded by Peter Cobb, to deny the permit at this time pending a discussion with the property owner. The motion was so voted.

MOTION, by Elaine Fiore, seconded by Peter Cobb, to approve the minute of July 28, 2009. The motion was so voted.

An analysis of Phase 1 Field Cards was discussed. There were discrepancies found between the betterment assessments and the listing on the property cards. The errors were reported to the assessors' office and since then some have been corrected and some have been made worse. Four properties remain in error on the cards. They are under assessed as 1 residential unit when they should be 2 units according to the cards. The Sewer Commission should request that the assessors' office conduct a review of these properties to determine whether they are 2-family properties or 1-family properties. The status should be updated according to the outcome of the inspections.

Sewer billing for RK Crossing was reviewed. Kevin Belmont has not provided meter readings as was agreed upon earlier this year. The Board decided to bill them based on the square footage of the building that is connected to the sewer, which is 2/5 (two fifths) of the building. A letter will be sent to them and a memo will be sent to Marylou Joyce requesting that corrections be made to the account for sewer use and service charges.



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Daniel Alves met with the Sewer Commissioners at 7:25 to discuss his sewer connection at 11 Leland Road. Norman Short also attended as the Drain Layer hired for the connection. Mr. Short reported that the invert measured 33 inches and that the pipe at the house measured 27 inches. Mr. Vandal asked if the connection could get in by gravity at 1/8 pitch. Mr. Short said the run would be about 50 feet in length and that the elevation difference is exactly 6 inches. Mr. Vandal asked what they felt would create a freezing problem. Mr. Cobb suggested that it was not so much a freezing problem with the sewer line as it was a problem with potential frost heaves. If the sewer line is installed at minimum pitch and frost should heave the pipe upward then it could prohibit the line from flowing properly. Everyone agreed that the grinder pump would not freeze but that there was potential for the 1 ½ inch pipe to freeze. Mr. Short stated that the basement was finished and that the house is a split level. The plumbing goes under the concrete floor and out to the front of the house. The waste pipe comes out under the front steps. He asked if a 4 inch pipe might not work better. This diameter pipe could be kept a bit deeper than a 6 inch pipe. Going around the tree takes away a few feet as well.

Mr. Alves offered to have anyone that wanted to, to come take a look at the house. There is a washing machine in the basement with plumbing at the back of the house. The septic system goes out to the front of the house. Mr. Vandal and Mr. Cobb agreed to meet Mr. Alves and Mr. Short at the house tomorrow at 9:00 AM.

Jim Ruprecht of Kingston Nursery met with the Board at 7:45 PM. Ms. Fiore reviewed that the nursery uses a lot of water that does not go into the sewer. Mr. Ruprecht asked if he could install an outflow meter on the sewer pipe. Mr. Vandal said normally meters are not put on sewer outflow pipes because the pipe needs to be full for the meter to work. He can check with CDM to see if there is any kind of meter available for this situation. Mr. Ruprecht said he did not contact the water department about a second meter yet. According to information the Sewer Commission obtained the water department would charge \$3700.00 for a new line and about \$500 for another meter. Ms. Fiore asked if he had checked on the price of a well and Mr. Ruprecht said he had not done that yet. There is only a sink and toilet in use from May to September. It might be cheaper to put in a well rather than a second meter. He will check on both options. Mr. Vandal will check on an outflow meter with CDM.

Mr. Ruprecht's son, Jim, asked about sewer capacity. He was told that they would be limited to 330 gallons per day if they chose to abandon the nursery business and do something else with the property. An application for additional sewer capacity was provided.



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The Board discussed that they need to establish a new category for sewer service for nursery businesses. Their water use should be in a different category than residential watering.

Ms. Fiore asked about the gate for North Street. Mr. Vandal said he needed to speak to Paul Basler about it but they were considering some kind of drop down gate. He felt a 2 post gate would limit vehicle access when they need to get a pumper truck in there. Mr. Cobb suggested sinking two large diameter pipes into the ground with a cement base and inserting a post into it that could be lifted out with the winch when they need to get into the pump station with a truck. A post barrier would not limit walking traffic but would keep vehicles from driving through the area. Mr. Vandal said he would discuss this with Mr. Basler.

MOTION, by Elaine Fiore, seconded by Peter Cobb, to go into Executive Session to discuss ongoing negotiations and to conclude the meeting at the end of the Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken resulting in both members voting in favor of the motion.

MOTION, by Elaine Fiore, seconded by Peter Cobb, to conclude the Executive Session and the meeting at 8:24 PM. A roll call vote was taken resulting in both members voting in favor of the motion.

Suzanne Richards  
Administrative Assistant