



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

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

Minutes  
November 17, 2009

The regular meeting of the Board of Sewer Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 PM by Elaine Fiore. Members attending were Elaine Fiore, Peter Cobb and Thomas Taylor.

Bills were signed totaling \$622.98 for fuel, \$8600.00 for a sewer line inspection camera and \$6235.35 in regular department bills.

A letter to the owner of 3 Lantern Lane, regarding the cost to repair a grinder pump, was reviewed and signed. This property has no grinder pump easement and the owner is responsible for the repair costs.

Mr. Vandal reviewed that Tank 1 has developed a problem in the aeration system. He has planned to take Tank 2 down after Thanksgiving to repair that aeration system and now the other tank is having problems. Sanitaire has been contacted to come to Kingston to develop a cost estimate for a new aeration system. Just last year it cost \$10,000.00 to replace the diffusers in Tank 1 and there are problems already. It is unknown if any of the components in Tank 2 can be salvaged until it is taken down. Maintenance will be done at night when the flows are lower and the work can be done faster. This will be an additional overtime cost but it is the best option. If Sanitaire comes in with a reasonable cost estimate then it would be wise to go with the new aeration system now.

Ms. Fiore stated it was important that the Free Cash be allocated to the Enterprise Fund. Several Articles have been proposed for the Annual Town Meeting in 2010 to retain this money for various projects. Mr. Cobb stated that it was critical to keep this money. The general public needs to know how important it is for the Sewer Enterprise Fund to retain the Free Cash for needed projects. Ms. Fiore added that just today she had contacted Jill Myers regarding an Article to borrow or appropriate funds to construct a 3<sup>rd</sup> SBR in order to provide adequate space for maintenance of the SBRs while continuing the wastewater process without violating the DEP permit.

Ms. Fiore asked if everything had been completed that needed to be at the Rocky Nook pump station next to the Charlie Horse. Mr. Vandal said that the wet well still needs to be cleaned out. There is a thick layer of rag material that has to be removed. This problem is caused by flushing disposable wipes. These items should not be flushed. The highway department has the new vacor truck but the staff has not been trained to operate it yet.

Chief Heath has reported back to the department regarding a generator. He said that there are 2 surplus generators available and that it is very likely that



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Kingston will be able to get these surplus units. One of them should be available for the Hilltop Avenue pump station.

The Bog has circulated an application for a license to operate a snack bar at the skating rink. The Sewer Commission cannot approve the license until they provide the \$85.00 grease trap inspection fee that is due and provide the department with grease trap records.

Mr. Vandal reported that Chief Heath had called him out to 163 Summer Street today. The contractor was working in a deep trench and had not taken out a trench permit. Chief Heath was holding the contractor responsible and said it required a commercial permit that would cost \$100.00. He was also concerned that the excavation was completely blocking access to the driveway to the apartment building, which could prohibit emergency vehicles from reporting to the site in the event of an emergency. They were considering providing a temporary driveway for vehicular access. Ms. Fiore stated that Tom Morgan had already contacted her to ask if the Sewer Commission could pay for part of this job. The Sewer Commission and Mr. Vandal felt that the Town has already paid enough money for all of the other lateral corrections that have been needed on Tremont Street. There is no more money to help pay for this job.

A building permit application for 10 Adams Avenue was reviewed. The ZBA has placed restrictions on this project which will limit the house to 3 bedrooms. Two must be on the second floor and one in the basement. The application looked acceptable and was approved.

MOTION, by Thomas Taylor, seconded by Peter Cobb, to approve the minutes for October 20, November 2 and November 3, 2009. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

A CDM invoice totaling \$1739.15 for work related to Phase 2 sewer construction was approved.

MOTION, by Elaine Fiore, seconded by Peter Cobb, to go into Executive Session to discuss ongoing litigation matters and to return to regular session at the conclusion. A roll call vote was taken resulting in Ms. Fiore, Mr. Cobb and Mr. Taylor all voting in favor.

MOTION, by Thomas Taylor, seconded by Peter Cobb, to end the Executive Session and return to the regular session of the meeting. A roll call vote was taken resulting in Ms. Fiore, Mr. Cobb and Mr. Taylor all voting in favor.

A Flood Hazards brochure was provided to the Board for review. The brochure was developed as part of the StormSmart Coasts program that the office staff has been participating in with the Conservation Agent and Town Planner. Maureen Thomas has presented the draft brochure to the Collector so that a cost



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estimate could be obtained from the mailing service that sends out the tax bills. The cost to mail the brochure out in the tax bills would be about \$300.00 and would include printing, folding and stuffing the brochure in with the bills. The Conservation Commission does not have any money this year to send the brochure out but is planning to request funds for this task next year. Ms. Fiore asked how the Board felt about providing the funds to mail the brochure out this year. The Board and Mr. Vandal thought it would be a good faith gesture to provide the money for this but no vote was taken to approve providing any funds at this time.

Ms. Fiore discussed that every department has been asked to cut their budgets by 3%. Enterprise Funds are included in this requirement. The Wastewater budget has been cut as much as it can be but came in a bit short of 3% by \$10,000.00. The Board hopes to reduce the sewer rate from \$10.50 per thousand gallons of water consumed down to \$10.25 early in 2010 provided that the quarterly receipts are on target and indicate it can be done without creating a shortage of funds. The maintenance schedule as it appears on the FY 2011 budget was discussed briefly. Several items are planned during this year.

The Sewer Commission meeting schedule was reviewed. The meeting scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled and a meeting will be scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup>. No other meetings will be scheduled for December.

MOTION, by Elaine Fiore, seconded by Peter Cobb, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM. The motion was so voted.

Suzanne Richards  
Administrative Assistant