



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

781-585-4058
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Elaine A. Fiore
Peter C. Cobb
Thomas W. Taylor, Jr.

Minutes
November 3, 2009

The 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.

Roger LaGreca, owner of 67 Shore Drive, attended to voice his opposition to the placement of a traffic gate at the pump station adjacent to his property. He stated that since he has purchased the property he has constructed a stone wall and that vehicles no longer drive through the area from Shore Drive to Rocky Nook Avenue. He did state that someone has plowed this area in the past. He is concerned with the safety of the residents once the gate is installed. Police and Fire vehicles can drive through there in the event of an emergency. Has anyone consulted with the Fire Chief regarding the gate? He also suggested that there should be a reinforced cover on the wet well at the pump station because the one that is there is not sturdy enough to support any weight. The Sewer Commission told Mr. LaGreca that the gate is not intended to restrict pedestrian or bicycle access. Residents have complained that vehicles are using this area as a cut through creating a hazardous situation. The Sewer Commission is concerned that if vehicles are using this area that damage could be done to the pump station. Mr. LaGreca suggested that No Trespassing signs should be put up and that fines should be issued to violators. It is redundant for a gate to be put up because vehicles do not use this area. Ms. Fiore disagreed saying that go carts, motorcycles and so forth have been seen using this area and the Sewer Commission is concerned with protecting the pump station. Mr. Vandal added that should the control box become disabled that the pump station would be shut down. This would be a major problem. Ms. Fiore stated that the Sewer Commission will do the best they can not to inhibit pedestrian traffic. Mr. LaGreca stated again that he felt No Trespassing signs would be sufficient. Ms. Fiore replied that there would be no means to police it if signs were put up. Mr. LaGreca continued that he had heard that the safety cones and the gate posts were dumped at the other end of the road near the other pump station. This information has come from a kid on a bicycle. Mr. Vandal mentioned that the Town could install a fence around the pump station if it was needed to maintain the safety of the pump station. This is done in other towns. There has been vandalism at some of the pump stations in Kingston but everything is being done to maintain the safety of the stations without having to install fencing. Mr. LaGreca stated again that he had concern for emergency access and safety. He asked about the gate next to Gray's Beach and was told that it was privately owned



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by Dr. Guidoboni. This is an emergency access in the event the train bridge is ever shut down. The discussion concluded with the Sewer Commission thanking Mr. LaGreca for voicing his concern.

Department bills were signed totaling \$6585.30. The WWTF generator program with EnerNOC was discussed and a contract reviewed. The program will pay the Wastewater Department to run their emergency generator instead of using the Grid for power on limited occasions.

MOTION, by Peter Cobb, seconded by Thomas Taylor, that the Sewer Commission recommend that Jill Myers approve of and sign the contract with EnerNOC on behalf of the Wastewater Department. The motion was unanimously voted.

The Board discussed that the FY 2011 budgets are due to the Town Administrator by November 10, 2009. Since there is Free Cash totaling about \$1,000,000.00 the Board would like to look into reducing the sewer user rates from \$10.50 per thousand gallons of water consumed to \$10.00 per thousand gallons of water consumed. In addition the remaining money should be allocated to specific sewer projects that are pending.

Mr. Vandal discussed that if a new SBR is built and it has a new aeration system than the current SBRs, then it would be wise to change the system in SBR #2 instead of changing the diffusers again.

The grinder pump at 3 Lantern Lane was discussed. There is no grinder pump easement recorded for this property and the pump was pulled out and determined it did not work. The property owner should pay for the repair bill. A building permit for the same property was reviewed and the Board determined that the project would remain within the 330 allocated to the property. The permit application was signed.

Mr. Vandal also discussed the grinder pump at 11 Waterview Lane. The pump had been buried after the initial installation had been inspected. This is an obvious case of abuse. The new owner has asked for an inspection and testing of the pump. Mr. Vandal will not check the pump unless an easement for this address is provided with the \$126.00 recording fee for the Registry of Deeds. The control box has also been moved inside a building and has to be relocated within sight of the pump. If the pump does not run it has to be repaired at the owner's expense. Maintenance of the pump will not be taken over by the Town until the pump is proven to be in working order and the control box is relocated to the proper location.

The owner of 15 Bradford Avenue requested a review of her sewer charges because her water consumption has increased over the past 6 billing periods. A review of the account was done and the Water Dept. consulted. It was determined there had been a water leak. The Sewer Commission determined that under the



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circumstances a reduction of the bills could not be approved. A letter will be written to the property owner explaining the decision.

Ms. Fiore discussed that she had spoken with Paramount Partners regarding Capital Leasing options they provide to municipalities. CDM has a copy of the handout they gave her and will look into this more.

The Board reviewed the discussion that took place with CDM on Monday and reviewed the expansion diagrams again as well as diagrams from the 40R project detailing the Transfer Station and WWTF, the original facilities plan diagrams and the site review documentation.

Discussion briefly shifted to Town Meeting. There are several articles that the Sewer Commission should add to the Warrant.

- Transfer money from the General Fund to reimburse money spent to repair damage to the pump stations and WWTF caused by the NStar power surge.
- Allocate Free Cash for design, permitting, construction and land acquisition. The amounts still need to be determined.
- Allocated an amount still to be determined for specific need items.
- Create a reserve fund for emergency purposes.

Ms. Fiore reviewed the Sanitaire aeration system again. CDM needs to provide a cost to replace the aeration system in SBR #2 with this system. If current remaining appropriations have sufficient funds in them to pay for it now then any articles from the 2010 Town Meeting would replace the money. Mr. Vandal did not feel there was enough money remaining to pay for this and said he would request another report for the articles to see what funding is still available. The grinder pumps have been purchased with some of the funds. Repairs of the pumps are being funded from the operations and maintenance line item of the budget. Account 78028 has been completely depleted and 78035 is quickly being depleted with the CDM design invoices. The remaining smaller account, 78054 was used to purchase the new department vehicle.

CDM has estimated that the expansion should cost between 6 and 8 million dollars. The waiting list is now very small now that Town & Country has withdrawn their application. CDM will make some revisions to the drawings provided yesterday. When the Board is satisfied with the revisions then CDM will provide a final cost estimate. The pipe gallery for SBR #3 is a must have.

Mr. Vandal stated that he had checked with the WWTF staff and that the haulers do not have a problem with unloading the septage trucks under pressure. They actually prefer this because it saves time.

Ms. Fiore reviewed the Thorndike Timeline received this week. It says that the leaching fields and the forced mains to the Davis property are scheduled for no later than 2013. This delay is unacceptable. The document will be sent to Town



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Counsel stating that the Sewer Commission has concern with the dates mentioned and ask for advice about what the Sewer Commission can do about it.

MOTION, by Peter Cobb, seconded by Elaine Fiore, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. The motion was unanimously voted.

Suzanne Richards
Administrative Assistant