



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, II

Minutes
September 20, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of Sewer Commissioners was held tonight in Room 201 of the Town Hall. Members in attendance were Elaine Fiore, Peter Cobb and Thomas Taylor. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Ms. Fiore.

The Board briefly discussed the Town Library. They have been having problems with their current duplex pumping system. It has been in alarm due to a seal failure and they may now be ready to connect to the sewer. It has been mentioned that a grinder pump was being considered in order to make the connection easier. One other concern was who would be installing the sewer connection. A licensed drain layer should be used. The Board was in agreement that the building should be connected by gravity if it can be done that way.

MOTION, by Peter Cobb, seconded by Thomas Taylor, to continue the consistency to connect property by gravity whenever it is possible to do so. The motion was voted unanimously.

Mr. Vandal reported that he had received two bids for the Hilltop Avenue generator and that he was waiting for a third bid to arrive. The excavation and the concrete pad will be done by the Highway Department. He hopes to have the generator installed before winter.

At 7:15 the Board met with Robert Kraus, on behalf of the owners of RK Crossing. He stated that if the plaza was tied into the sewer fully they would exceed the 3300 gallons per day they have been allocated. He read a letter addressed to the Sewer Commission and dated September 6, 2011 that the Sewer Commission never received. Mr. Kraus stated that if the Board can give them the flow they need to allow them to connect fully they would be happy to do it. He asked that the Board allow the status of the plaza to remain as is until they can obtain additional capacity to bring the plaza to 4242 gallons per day. When the property was purchased the sewer requirements were calculated to be 4242 gallons per day. Ms. Fiore stated that the Board would like copies of the September 6, 2011 letter and attachments prepared by Tibbetts. Mr. Kraus stated that he did not have the attachments but would get copies of all of the information and get clarification of the flow numbers by either October 4 or 18.

At 7:30 the Board met with Ezequiel Sandoval of 12 Cushman Drive to discuss the maintenance of the grinder pump that serves the house. Ms. Fiore explained that the grinder pump had been replaced 3 times for the previous owner due to misuse by the tenants. The department will maintain the pump for Mr. Sandoval unless the problems continue to occur. Mr. Sandoval stated that he lives in the house and is not renting the apartment now. F.R. Mahony did come out and inspect the pump when he purchased the house and provided service at that time to



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, II

make sure it was in good working order. Mr. Sandoval paid for this work. Mr. Vandal explained that the cost to maintain a pump that has to be replaced can be between \$150.00 and \$500.00 depending on the damage that needs to be repaired. Since it was the previous owner that allowed the abuse to continue, the Sewer Commission did not feel it would be appropriate to penalize the new owner by requiring him to have F.R. Mahoney continue to service his pump. A grinder pump information package and information hand outs were provided to Mr. Sandoval and he thanked the Board for maintaining his pump again.

Bills totaling \$25,826.28 were approved and signed and several letters to customers were approved and signed.

A letter from the owner of 3 Shore Drive was reviewed. The new owner would like to connect a gas stove in the basement level of the house to a propane gas service. Ms. Fiore reviewed that the Board had approved a building permit application for the basement level, for the previous owner, conditionally that he remove the stove and wall partitions. The stove was supposed to have been removed by the previous owner.

MOTION, by Thomas Taylor, seconded by Peter Cobb, to stand by the original plans submitted by the previous owner with partitions removed and no stove. The motion was unanimously voted.

The Board discussed that the owner of LaPaloma has requested that he be granted an exemption of the quarterly grease trap pumping schedule provided that he provides inspection reports that state the grease trap does not need pumping. Mr. Vandal stated that he had spoken with a local pumper and discussed that the Rules and Regulations require pumping every three months and do not allow restaurants to pump only when an inspection indicates it is needed. The last pumping LaPaloma did was in January 2011. The staff has noticed an increase in grease in the lift stations when another local restaurant exceeded the quarterly pumping schedule.

MOTION, by Thomas Taylor, seconded by Peter Cobb, to deny the request from LaPaloma to pump less frequently than every three months. The motion was unanimously voted.

Ms. Fiore discussed that a letter would be sent to Mr. Tonsberg regarding sewer for the High Pines 40B project. The Board will ask him to identify which 10 lots out of the 30 potential Indian Pond sewer connections he will give up to connect 10 of his High Pines 40B units. The Board will also ask him to sign the letter to either commit to or decline 10 ERUs of sewer flow for the ten 40B homes.

A letter was received from Sean Henry regarding 71 Main Street. He would like clarification as to whether the house can be converted into a 2-family. There will be no changes to the floor plan on either level or to the basement. Based on the Assessors' card the house is listed as a 1010, single family home with 3 bedrooms.



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, II

The floor plan for the first and second floors, provided by Mr. Henry, indicates it is currently two living units totaling 3 bedrooms. The Board discussed that the flow allocated to this property is 330 gallons per day and what Mr. Henry is asking will not add any more sewer flow. The sewer flow is sufficient.

MOTION, by Thomas Taylor, seconded by Peter Cobb, that the sewer capacity at 71 Main Street is sufficient for the home as it exists, as long as it remains 3 bedrooms. The motion was unanimously voted.

Ms. Fiore discussed a verbal complaint that was received from the owner of 3 Pearl Street. He is disputing his sewer charge billed to him in September and has scheduled an appointment to meet with the Board on October 4, 2011 to discuss it.

Ms. Fiore discussed Hurricane Irene. How should the department manage grinder pump maintenance? Should the department put a contract out to bid to have one or more vendors on stand-by to go out and maintain the pumps? If it were a winter storm the staff would be concentrating on servicing the lift stations not the grinder pumps. Bid specifications should be established as well as what insurance would be needed, training and so forth. The department also needs a central number for grinder pump customers to call in emergency conditions instead of calling the pager. Mr. Vandal mentioned that his radios allow his staff to stay in communication with the Highway and Water departments by changing the channel on their radios. KEMA has been contacted and it would be up to Chief Heath whether or not the department could have a telephone line in the emergency operations center. Mr. Vandal noted that the new control boxes from Phase 2 have a plug on the side for the generator to hook up to but they do not work because they have been wired up wrong. There are about 40 boxes that need to be checked and possibly rewired. Ms. Fiore asked if there was any equipment that the staff did not have but would need in the event of a similar event. Mr. Vandal stated that he hoped to replace the F250 on the next budget. Mr. Vandal will check into a phone line at the KEMA emergency operations center. Ms. Fiore added that the department had checked into getting hangers that can be left on the door when a crew services a grinder pump. It will cost \$158.00 for 500 hangers. A telephone contact number is needed before they can be printed. Should the department get another cell phone for emergency use? Grinder customers should be contacted again for cell phone numbers and alternate phone numbers in the event the homeowner's phone is not working.

Mr. Vandal discussed that the Board should consider replacing the old control boxes with no quick connect ability with the new style control boxes used in Phase 2. It would cost about \$400.00 for each new control box plus labor to install it. It could be done over several years.

MOTION, by Thomas Taylor, seconded by Peter Cobb, to approve the minutes of August 23, 2011. The motion was unanimously voted.



TOWN OF KINGSTON

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

781-585-4058

781-585-5874 FAX

MOTION, by Thomas Taylor, seconded by Peter Cobb, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM. The motion was unanimously voted.

Elaine A. Fiore

Peter C. Cobb

Thomas W. Taylor, II

Suzanne Richards
Administrative Assistant