

Minutes
September 9, 2008

The meeting of the Board of Sewer Commissioners was held tonight. Members in attendance were Elaine Fiore and Peter Cobb. Mr. Walsh was unable to attend due to illness. Ms. Fiore called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Arthur Lane attended the meeting representing Bulldog Excavating and on behalf of his son Robert Laine, who submitted a Drain Layer's application for approval. Both men conduct the company's business and are owner and president. The Board reviewed the application and found it complete.

MOTION, by Elaine Fiore, seconded by Peter Cobb, to approve Bulldog Excavating as a Drain Layer. The motion was so voted.

Mr. Laine discussed that Robert Laine was having problems getting his sewer connection completed. The Conservation Commission always issues stop order whenever he starts to prepare the area for the installation. Ms. Fiore advised Mr. Laine to have the Conservation Commission office contact the Sewer Commission regarding this matter. The Board is happy to work with the Conservation Commission to get the connection completed to their satisfaction.

The Board discussed connection inspections. Remaining connections have been reduced to approximately 100 properties, some of which are vacant lots. Mr. Vandal has agreed to resume the inspection duties as this is a more reasonable number for him to oversee.

MOTION, by Peter Cobb, seconded by Elaine Fiore, that as of November 1, 2008, the duties of inspecting sewer connections will revert back to Mr. Vandal. The motion was so voted.

The Board asked that a letter be written to Mr. Veracka to thank him for the services he provided for the connection of Phase 2 properties and to notify him that as of November 1, 2008, Mr. Vandal will resume the duties of inspecting sewer connections.

Billing for special services, such as inspecting grease traps, was discussed. The Water Department is not able to bill for these service on the water/sewer bill and must bill separately for these services. The Sewer Commission could bill these charges similar to the way septage fees are billed, with a manual entry system.

The withdrawal of the Stony Brook project has freed 18,150 gallons of sewer capacity for applicants on the waiting list. Several applicants now qualify for a portion of this capacity, one of which is the Mews on Baker Avenue. The Board needs to get a firm commitment from them regarding exactly what will be built before the capacity can be allocated to this project. Proof of ownership of the property involved in this project is needed before liens for the connection fees can be placed on the parcel(s). Capacity can be offered to Kristen Nolan for the lot on Spring Street. If she does not want the capacity

her application will be withdrawn. If she changed her mind then she would go to the bottom of the list again.

Connection Fees that are apportioned to the tax bill should be charged 1% interest on the unpaid balance.

MOTION, by Peter Cobb, seconded by Elaine Fiore, to charge 1% interest on the unpaid balance for Connection Fees that are apportioned to the tax bill. The motion was so voted.

Greg Donovan, 3 Shore Drive was in attendance to discuss a building permit that the Board of Sewer Commissioners returned unsigned to the building department. Mr. Donovan stated that he has a double lot. He lived in the bungalow on the lot while he was constructing a new house. He provided the Board with a copy of the proposed floor plan from 2005, used in construction approval and the current floor plan as it has been built. The proposed floor plan indicated 3 bedrooms, 1 bath and loft space on the second floor. The first floor indicated there would be a half bath, dining room, kitchen, full bath and living area. The basement was vacant space. The as built floor plan indicates the addition of 2 bedrooms, a full bath, a kitchen and a living area in the basement level. There is no sewer capacity for this additional living unit space and it was done without issuance of a building permit.

Mr. Donovan admitted that members of his extended family had interfered during the building process and that they had gone ahead and finished the basement area. Mr. Cobb explained that the bathroom and family room is not a problem that would require additional sewer capacity. The bedrooms and the kitchen creates an additional living unit that there is no capacity for. Ms. Fiore asked Mr. Donovan about a past sales advertisement that had listed the house as having an in-law apartment. Mr. Donovan said that was correct but that they no longer intend to sell the house. His family will be living in the house.

Mr. Donovan also stated that there had been water in the basement. As a result some additional work has been done to resolve the drainage problem and the stove has been removed. Paul Armstrong recommended that he meet with the Sewer Commission to discuss what changes are needed in order for the Sewer Commission to approve a building permit so that the building department is able to issue an occupancy permit. Mr. Cobb replied that there was no problem with the bathroom or the family room. Ms. Fiore added that the stove needs to be permanently removed and that the partitions creating the 2 bedrooms should be removed to create one large open space/family room. By leaving the walls up it implies the potential for use as additional bedrooms. Extra bedrooms are a sewer capacity issue. The sewer capacity assessed to this property was based on the existing property card. When additional bedrooms are added it creates a capacity issue. In this case taking down the walls will allow the Sewer Commission to approve the family room and bathroom. He can apply to be placed on the waiting list for additional bedroom capacity. Mr. Donovan said that he would like to apply for the additional capacity. The Sewer Commission approved adding the request to the waiting list. A memo will be sent to the building department detailing what changes the Sewer Commission requires in order to approve an application.

Ms. Fiore discussed that Revoli Construction had sent a letter asking for an additional \$20,000.00 for Change Order #5, which has not been paid. The Board has already discussed that they will not pay this. The Board asked that a spreadsheet be

prepared, detailing the problems on Tremont Street and at CVS, etcetera, and that it be sent to CDM. Ms. Poirier said that she has this information already and that she can easily forward it to Tom Morgan at CDM.

Package Plant Standards were mentioned. Mr. Vandal said that DEP oversees the standards required for package plants and that the Sewer Commission would use the Small Pump Stations for Private Installation regulations would be used for anything that does not require a package plant.

Ms. Fiore reviewed that the Tech Committee meeting will be discussing obtaining a lock box for the Tax Collector. It will cost about \$8000.00 to put the lock box in. Would the Sewer Commission be interested in providing funding for this lock box for the first year in order to get it running? If so, the Town Allocated Costs assessed to the Sewer Commission/Wastewater Department could be reevaluated after it is in place for 1 year. The Board could also consider funding the lock box annually in lieu of paying Town Allocated Costs to the Collector. Mr. Cobb and Ms. Fiore agreed that this was something that should be considered and that it should be discussed with the Tech Committee.

Mr. Cobb reported that Doug Buitenhuys had confronted him at the Transfer Station and was verbally abusing him. He got right up in his face despite Mr. Cobb's attempts to discontinue the conversation. Mr. Cobb's son was with him and had to step between Mr. Buitenhuys and Mr. Cobb in order for Mr. Buitenhuys to break off his confrontation. Mr. Cobb asked that this be recorded in the minutes and stated that he intended to document this with the police department as well.

Mr. Vandal reported that he has received a price quote of \$5222.00 to replace the fire sensor that has failed in headworks. The labor estimate was for 4 hours at \$150.00 totaling \$600.00.

MOTION, by Elaine Fiore, seconded by Peter Cobb to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM. The motion was so voted.

Suzanne Richards
Administrative Assistant