

**Minutes  
Of  
The Foxboro Water and Sewer Commissioners  
June 9, 2014**

Members in Attendance: Chairman M. Stanton, Vice Chairman R. Pacella, Clerk B. Garber, Water Superintendent R. Worthley, DPW Superintendent R. Hill, Finance Director R. Scollins, Special Town Counsel S. Madaus, Town Manager B. Keegan

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Stanton.

The footprint for the new office space has been worked out; it will now be worked on by the modular company.

The Board needs to appoint members to the new IMA Commission. The appointments will need to be made within the next two weeks. It was suggested that the Town Manager and Rich Pacella be the appointees. Mansfield will be operating the plant through the three years. The plant design and permitting will take a least a year but probably more, then it still needs to be constructed. The IMA is set to be signed by July 1, 2014; capacity can start to be sold after the IMA is signed.

Mansfield still has to commit to paying their employees through the district after substantial completion of the new plant. They may have contract issues to be worked out to change them from town to district employees when the time comes.

The rewritten Rules and Regulations have been distributed to Board members for review.

Mr. Hill wanted to discuss residential hook up charges; there have been a few customers who want to hook up without paying up front. Mr. Scollins noted that there are low interest loans available through the Board of Health, the funds are loaned at 0% to the department which can then be loaned out and bonded and interest charges begin then. This would be a joint effort between the Board of Health, Finance and BWSC. The Board agreed that this would be a good option.

Mr. Pacella asked if there would be different rates for residential and commercial customers. Cost has been determined at \$43.21 and Mr. Hill is not sure how to divide it up to two different rates. Atty. Madaus cited Mass General Laws that allow separate charges for residential and commercial users so it is allowed if the Board decides to go in that direction.

An application has been received for a Change of Owner at 23 Leonard Street. A motion to approve the change of owner at 23 Leonard Street was approved 3-0.

An application has been received for a Change of Owner at 35 Cocasset Street. A motion to approve the change of owner at 35 Cocasset Street was approved 3-0.

An application has been received for a Change of Owner at 31 Barton Road. A motion to approve the change of owner at 31 Barton Road was approved 3-0.

A motion to approve payment of an invoice from AECOM for work on the IMA in the amount of \$400 was approved 3-0.

A motion to approve payment of an invoice from AECOM for Wetlands Monitoring in the amount of \$8182.05 was approved 3-0.

Mr. Pacella stated that he has received a call from former Town Engineer Bob Swanson; he is back in the area and stated that he is available for consulting work if needed.

Mr. Garber stated that the Open Space Committee is looking for a representative from the BWSC. The Board would like the Town Engineer develop a map showing what land the department owns. Mr. Garber will represent the Board on the Open Space Committee.

The Board then met with the new Town Manager Bill Keegan.

There are three major items to be discussed. The first is the IT department; when the town developed the DPW department the idea was to have the Town Engineer team up with the town IT department so they would have a platform that could be used by other departments (GIS, etc). The MUNIS system is also hard to work with; recently a large report printout was needed for only one item of information. The Board is ready to go it alone if they cannot properly integrate with the town system.

When the new Engineer asked about getting the new CAD system on his computer, he was told that the Windows system was out of date and there were many other computers that needed to be updated before the IT Director could get to his. The Board has hired good professionals who are unable to do their job effectively due to computer issues. Mr. Keegan stated that a new IT Director has been hired and will be starting July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Scollins stated that they have been trying to work on this for years, there are nine departments that could use the GIS program but there have been no departments willing to take the lead on this. He stated that Mr. Hill started it up again when he arrived but it was not a coordinated effort. Bill Yukna of the School Department has also committed to getting this done with the new IT Director. An IT Steering Committee is also being formed; a member of the DPW should be on it.

Mr. Scollins suggested that they reach out to Mr. Yukna to let them know their needs.

The second issue is the town sewer system. The Board members updated the new Town Manager on the sewer situation they are dealing with. The town currently has no capacity to sell and the treatment plant is maxed out in Mansfield. They have been working on an expansion with Mansfield, Norton and Foxboro; they will also be creating a seven person commission with two representatives from Foxboro. The agreement will be signed by July 1, 2014. There are a lot of Title 5 customers whose flow will change to actual flow that can be recovered by the town which will free up more capacity to be used.

The Board explained the history with the IMA agreement. The town agreed to purchase 170,000 gallons of additional capacity without betterments and have come up with a very interesting financing technique that needs big commercial users to make it work. They have been entertaining an inquiry from a Sharon developer with 50 acres. The town already serves customers in Sharon and when the Title 5 flow is changed there will be 70,000 gallons of flow available that could be sold to the developers in Sharon.

Even if the Board does not join the IMA, the plant in Mansfield would still need upgrades in the

amount of \$18 million would fall upon the 965 current customers.

There will be more capacity available on July 1<sup>st</sup> and all unused capacity belongs to the town and will not have to be bought. There are developments in town that have capacity available; the town will recover more flow from Title 5 than the extra capacity bought.

The money would be available through SRF funding and good interest rates should be available for a regional district.

Mr. Keegan doesn't want to be on the IMA commission right now as he needs awhile to get up to speed on the town's position and issues; he will be available if needed.

The last issue is in regards to outdoor advertising at the stadium. The Board members explained that when the stadium was redeveloped an onsite treatment plant was proposed and they would also use reuse water for their restrooms. The town put up money for a high pressure district on Route 1, the town is currently paying for those upgrades. Then Patriots Place was developed and the town developed an agreement for billboards with the proceeds being split 50/50 with the town. The town owns the tank with the EBay advertisement but the Patriots own the advertising rights. The plant was never built and the agreement has since expired. The current debt service is more than what the town is getting paid for the reuse water. The Board would like to see the Kraft's sell advertising on the billboards and to repair the infrastructure at the very least.

The Board would like to put a PSA on the one without an ad if an advertiser cannot be found.

A motion to have Atty. Madaus work on the Outdoor Advertising issue instead of Atty. Hoffman was approved 3-0. A letter will be sent to Atty. Hoffman.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Gray

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These minutes of June 9, 2014 were approved as amended on July 21, 2014.



Robert Garber, Clerk