

**Minutes
Of
The Foxboro Water and Sewer Commissioners
March 21, 2013**

Members in Attendance: Chairman W. Euerle, Vice Chairman M. Stanton, Clerk R. Pacella, Planning Board Members: Kevin Weinfeld, William Grieder, Gordon Greene, Ron Bressé, John Rhoads and Shannon McLaughlin, Town Planner Sharon Wason, Advisory Committee Members: Larry Thomas, Kevin Powers, George Leonard, George Adler and Howard Segal

Joint Meeting with Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners and Citizen's Advisory Committee

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

The Planning Board invited the BWSC and the Ad Comm members to this meeting for information sharing in regards to the Master Plan. The BWSC is in the middle of an Intermunicipal Agreement negotiation with Mansfield and Norton to increase sewer capacity in town.

Mr. Euerle explained that the most current plan called for a 175,000 gallon expansion which would be available in 2017. This would include the towns of Foxboro, Mansfield and Norton. Norton is now negotiating with Wheaton College to get flow from them so no one is sure where Norton stands right now. Mr. Paicos has spoken with the Town Manager of Mansfield who said that Mansfield and Norton should come to an agreement and then Norton could join in if they were able.

Mr. Grieder asked about what authorization the BWSC has to proceed with joining the IMA and what part Town Meeting would play in it.

Mr. Euerle explained that their Board needs to define a sewer district/service area in town. They were first thinking of a "if you're on sewer, you're in" district.

Mr. Grieder stated that the Planning Board has a focus on downtown as part of the Master Plan and would like that area in the proposed district. If a service district is formed of only current users, then the downtown would be out. The Planning Board feels very strongly that downtown needs to be included in the district. Another advantage to including that area from the beginning is that permission would not have to be granted by Town Meeting every time a new downtown business wants to join the district.

Advisory Member Kevin Powers stated that he was under the impression that Town Meeting is a check for who gets to join the district, this check would be eliminated if permission is not needed from Town Meeting.

Mr. Greene stated that in previous town meetings, the townspeople have made it clear that they did not want to be forced to join the district by betterment.

Mr. Powers stated that he has been told that the IMA agreement will have more of an impact on commercial development in town but wanted to know if it will actually have more of an impact by allowing housing developments which will result in more kids in the school system.

Mr. Weinfeld stated that most of the children in town live in single family housing and not in the apartment houses. There are zoning restrictions on multi-family housing.

Mr. Grieder explained that the downtown district will be for current zoning which is mostly business and not a lot of residential. Zoning changes would be needed to modify this, which requires a town meeting vote.

Mr. Euerle stated that the IMA agreement is not required to go to Town Meeting as permission was already granted in 2008 by a Town Meeting vote. They also won't be ready with the district for the upcoming town meeting.

Mr. Grieder explained that 12,000 – 15,000 gallons per day is what they estimate will be needed for downtown. A majority approval at Town Meeting would be needed to expand the district unless an emergency connection is needed.

Mr. Grieder stated that the Kraft Organization came to the last Planning Board meeting for a proposed expansion at Patriot's Place and a resident raised concerns about there being a shortage of water to support another hotel. She also stated that the brown water in town is caused by overpumping of the town wells.

Mr. Euerle presented an email from the Water Superintendent Bob Worthley addressing these concerns. Mr. Worthley states that there are approximately 1.5 million gallons per day of water available to the town through the Water Management Act, beyond what the town is currently using. He goes on to explain that untreated iron and manganese is the cause of the brown water, when those substances are exposed to the chlorine in the system, brown water results. He also addressed the concern that the town doesn't have available water because of the summer water bans. These bans are required as part of the Inter Basin Transfer Permit which sets limits on the amount of water withdrawn per person per day based on population.

Larry Thomas of Advisory stated that he feels the choices are that the town can do nothing and let the downtown area go or get the sewer so downtown can be revitalized.

Mr. Powers wanted to know if there were other towns that lost their downtown vitality and then regained it through a new sewer system. Ms. Wason stated that Walpole's downtown has made a comeback through locally owned businesses and restaurants. They also have residential areas downtown which help bring people to the local businesses. Franklin and North Attleboro have also revitalized their downtown areas.

Mr. Powers fears that the aquifers will not be replenished. Mr. Weinfeld added that Foxboro's water naturally goes to other aquifers as Foxboro is located uphill.

Mr. Weinfeld stated that the town will end up with Chestnut Green or Patriots Place as

replacements for downtown if nothing is done. Mr. Powers feels that sewer expansion will result in an increase of population density for the town.

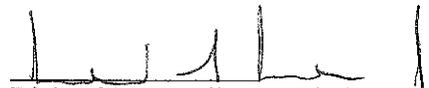
Mr. Euerle stated that the BWSC is hoping to bring a proposed district to fall town meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Gray

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These minutes of March 21, 2013 were approved as amended on April 1, 2013.


Richard M. Pacella, Jr., Clerk