

Water & Sewer Board

October 19, 1999 1:pm

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Grace Gouveia Building, 26 Alden St, Provincetown, MA

In Attendance:

Custodio J. Silva, Jr. Chairman

Giovanni (John) Cicero

David Perry

David Guertin, DPW Director

Craig Wiegand, Water Superintendent

Jim Buckingham

Kathie Meads, Water Department Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS:

Custodio Silva opened the meeting by calling for public statements. None were forthcoming.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE:

Craig Wiegand addressed the Board on several topics:

1998 MCDBG Grant funds for the Daley (South Hollow) Wellfield:

Michelle Jarusiewicz informed the Water Department on Friday, October 15th that the Town did not receive the MCDBG grant for the wellfield rehabilitation. The grant was in the amount of \$750,000. Keith requested that staff come up with a bottom line for funding needing to accomplish the most important aspects of the rehabilitation. Craig and Michelle presented Keith with a figure of \$420,000.

Custodio asked Craig if he knew why we were turned down. Craig said Keith was pursuing that question with Michelle and was going to contact Senator Rauschenbach's office soon regarding this matter.

10" Main on Shore Road in North Truro:

Craig informed the Board that there are only about 8 taps remaining on this line to be switched over. The project has mushroomed from an estimate of 35 changeovers to over 80. Truro Police continue to charge the Water Department for all the police details. We are paying for this out of our current budget funding. Once the remaining taps are completed, the line will be pressure tested to determine if the line has the integrity to remain as a transmission line into town. No taps will be allowed along this line so that the Town may turn it off if it deems it necessary. We would like to continue to use it as a transmission line until we can construct a new 16" line into town.

David Perry asked if there were lead connections on that old line. Craig responded that most of the old gooseneck connections were indeed lead. This is an added benefit to the water customer to have this health threat eliminated with the new service connections.

Atkins-Mayo Site:

We will be pump testing & field testing for iron, manganese, salinity, conductivity and all the other testing requirements for water quality at the Atkins – Mayo site. All four wells will be tested. The SOC's, VOC's, IOC's and other required tests will be sent to Barnstable County for analysis. We should have test results in 6 to 8 weeks. These results will give us the information necessary to evaluate the type of treatment and the cost of treatment for the site. We will know how feasible the development of the site will be after this information is processed.

New Water Sources:

DEP has determined that the Provincetown Water System needs to secure alternative water supply sites. We should have a supply which equals Daley Wellfield x 2. This is necessary in case we lose the Daley wellfield for any unforeseen emergency and we need to pump an alternative source. This will soon become a DEP mandate Craig warned.

Second Meter Reading:

Beginning Friday the Department will undertake a second meter reading for the year. We hope this information will shed some light on how the leak repairs have effected pumpage and unaccounted for water amounts. This second reading will not be a billed reading but will be used for internal departmental evaluations of the overall operation of the water system.

Hydraulic Modeling Project:

The Board was updated on the hydraulic modeling project. Phase I having been completed. However, Keith Bergman was informed that Truro's share of the Barnstable County funds which Provincetown thought would be used toward this project have been spend on another project by Truro. The project thus far has been paid for with Provincetown's share of the Barnstable County funds.

Conservation Kits:

The 1997 MCDBG grant funds paid for 1000 conservation kits which are being distributed today by Council on Aging volunteers to any income eligible water customers in Provincetown.

Growth Management and Truro:

Craig asked the Board for direction in addressing growth as it pertains to Truro hook-ups. Currently Provincetown does have a growth management plan in place which allows only 21

new unit dwellings constructed per year (aside from affordable housing permits). Within the last few weeks the Water Department has been made aware of 40 new construction units in Truro. The Blue Sea will be adding additional 16 units to the Provincetown water system. Whalewatch Drive was Okayed for service at the Merritt property. William Rogers acting on behalf of Daniel Prelack just submitted two water service applications – one for Kalmar Village, Inc. 3 cottages and one for Tradewinds Housing Corporation for a 20 unit motel. These hook-ups have all been approved by the Truro Board of Selectmen. Craig asked the Board how they wish him to proceed.

David Perry asked if the system can accommodate all of the applicants? Craig responded that during the peak season the system is pumping 24 hours per day 7 days per week (6/1/99 to 9/21/99).

On August 1, 1999 we pumped 1,762,000 gallons or 1.85 times the permitted amount. It takes most of the week to recoup the heavy weekend demand. By adding new services which will clearly raise that peak demand, the system is being taxed. Year round and single family dwellings do not put a strain on the system as we do not pump at capacity and the demand is much less. If we should have a huge fire during the peak season, we may not be able to recoup the water over the entire summer of pumping. Some of the newer fire apparatus are capable of pumping 1100 gallons per minute [ISO design criteria @ 3500 GPM sustained over 3 hours] with which our system does comply.

Gary Palmer agreed that there are no growth guidelines in Truro for Beach Point. Their lots are governed only by Title V restrictions and, since services from Knowles Crossing into Provincetown are allowed water hook-up under the present guidelines, these properties have less restrictive title v regulations then properties requiring wells. Presently

they can construct anything that meets those regulations.

This policy results in Truro being able to construct motels or other multiple unit dwellings with no growth cap. Mr. Palmer also indicated that he has advised Truro that they should not be governed by any of Provincetown's laws on growth management, but recognized that growth control in both towns is an important issue to address.

Craig added that winter is not the problem but summer demand is taxing the system. He does not know what the answer is but the Selectmen should give the Water & Sewer Board direction on this matter.

David Guertin added that we can address this issue as well through the Water Department Rules and Regulations.

John Cicero interjected that when the Water & Sewer Board did take a stand the selectmen intervened. Mr. Palmer added that under the Intermunicipal Agreement, whenever a dispute arose it should be sent to an arbitrator. All parties agreed, however, that the Provincetown Water & Sewer Board are the ultimate authority.

David Perry acknowledged that the bottom line is we need a new wellfield and both communities should work together toward that end.

Gary Palmer added that Truro is scheduling a Special Town Meeting to set aside land bank funds for the acquisition of a new wellfield site.

David Guertin requested that Gary Palmer ask Bud Breault to keep Provincetown fully informed of this process as it develops.

John Cicero asked if even though we don't presently have rules in our regulations, can we vote against any new hook-ups until the system is increased?

Custodio said that this Board can take that vote. We have that right no matter what.

David Perry suggested that perhaps the wisest route we be to allot just a little water instead of cutting off growth altogether. There are tradespeople and property owners who would be put out of work.

Craig added that there is no grave danger now and we should avoid a knee jerk reaction to the situation. This is the time to sit back and evaluate this over the next several months.

Custodio added that although it is true that Provincetown has grown over the last decade, Truro has grown as well. Provincetown is addressing its growth with a strict growth management plan while there is none in Truro except as dictated by Title V.

Cicero asked if Craig was willing to go on record with his figures. David Perry added that he thought Craig wants to be fair about this situation but it needs to be addressed.

Cicero explained that we must have either a vote or a policy in place. Custodio agreed that he was not afraid to take that vote but Craig warned that we cannot base that vote or policy on hypotheticals.

Custodio then suggested a single agenda meeting on this issue for the Water & Sewer Board. He would request that the Town Manager attend the meeting as well so he can convey the Board's opinion to the Selectmen. Mr. Cicero asked that Craig have pumping figures available for the Board and recoup figures on the system's capacity.

Custodio asked to move the meetings to Mondays instead of Tuesdays.

The meeting date of Monday, November 1, 1999 was chosen with the Agenda topic named as "Preparing for the Future".

Custodio commented on the wonderful job the crew has done on the Beach Point line changeover. He has heard many

words of praise for the service crew. Mr. Cicero made a **motion**

to send a letter of thanks for a job well done to the Water Department crew. This was seconded by Custodio. Vote in favor 3-0.

APPOINTMENT OF JAMES BUCKINGHAM TO THE BOARD:

Mr. Buckingham was present at the meeting today as Mr. Cicero made a **motion** to appoint him as a permanent full time member to the Water & Sewer Board. The motion was seconded by David Perry. Vote in favor of the appointment was as follows: Giovanni Cicero yes, David Perry yes and Custodio Silva yes. Vote in favor 3-0. Mr. Cicero welcomed Jim Buckingham to the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Approval of minutes:

David Perry made a **motion** to accept the minutes of the Water & Sewer Board meeting held on September 14, 1999 as written. Seconded by Custodio. Vote in favor of accepting the minutes 3-0.

Consumer Confidence Report:

The Board commented on the newly released CCR for the Department. Everyone felt the staff had done a wonderful job on our first report and thanked Kathie. She noted that a local resident, Paul Gavin, had voluntarily come in to help her with the report and his assistance was much appreciated. Mr. Cicero made a **motion** to send Mr. Gavin a letter of appreciation. David Perry seconded the motion. Vote in favor of sending the letter 3-0.

The Board was informed that five hundred copies of the report have been printed. Copies have been distributed to Town Hall, Council on Aging and are available from the Water Department Office as well. The entire report is on the internet at the Town government site thanks to Stefan Nofield's assistance.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 1, 1999 at 1:00 p.m..

The meeting adjourns at 2:10 p.m.