

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN - BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SPECIAL MEETING – MONDAY – JANUARY 23, 2012 5 PM

TOWN HALL – JUDGE WELSH ROOM

Chairman Elaine Anderson convened the meeting at 5:15 PM noting the following:

Board of Selectmen attending: Elaine Anderson, David Bedard, Austin Knight, John Santos and David McChesney

Other attendees: Town Manager Sharon Lynn, Assistant Town Manager David Gardner

Recorder: Vernon Porter

The following are minutes, in brief:

1. Water and Wastewater Update

Attendees: DPW Director David Guertin, Facilitator David Guertin, Environmental Partners Mark White, Facilitator John Goodrich and DPW Administrative Assistant Sherry Prada

DPW Director David Guertin introduced those attending and gave a brief update.

Facilitator John Goodrich

WASTEWATER & WATER UPDATE

We have a great deal of very good news to report on again this month for both the Wastewater and Water projects, including several outstanding developments for the Water System since your Report was prepared last week. The Water Superintendent will be formally reporting to DEP that the percent of Unaccounted for Water for calendar year 2011 was 19.7%, a huge reduction from the 29.5% reported for 2010. This is a direct result of the leak detection and management program implemented by the Water Department nearly two years ago with the continued support of your Board.

Substantial progress has been made on the USDA-funded water improvement projects. Fulfilling a commitment to the Truro Board of Selectmen, the Water Team held a Public Information Meeting on January 17th at the Truro Community Center for abutters, town board members and the public to review the design and construction plans for the Knowles Crossing filtration building. And, of great significance, the Town has just received two important approvals for the North Union Field Wellfield development.

On January 19th, the National Heritage and Endangered Species Program notified the Town of their approval following a review of the site-specific information provided to them. And, most important of all, MassDEP's Bureau of Resource Protection Chief notified the Town that the critical Water Management Act Permit for North Union Field has been approved. This permit and the previously announced DEP approval of the Pumping Test Report are the culmination of over 10 years of effort on the part of the Town, supported by Environmental Partners and their team, to secure a permitted withdrawal that will serve the Town's redundant water supply needs. Quoting from the permit findings: "the new wells will be used to supplement the existing sources to meet peak demand"... and... the "approved maximum daily withdrawal rate of 734,000 gallons per day will eliminate the need to withdraw from the North Truro Air Force Base wells".

The permit contains performance standards and a number of Special Permit Conditions, most of which have already been met. Of particular importance is Special Permit Condition 5, which requires that the Water System meet a 10% UAW performance standard for calendar year 2014 or otherwise achieve “functionally equivalent compliance” with this performance standard. The successful continuation of the Water Department’s water services inspection, leak detection and management programs will be needed in order to meet both this permit condition and the Water Conservation Requirements listed under Special Permit Condition 7. As previously required, the Department submitted a UAW Compliance Plan in December 2010, the on-going program is designed to satisfy all of the requirements of these two permit conditions, and the Board’s continued support will be needed to ensure that these conditions can be met.

Turning to the leak detection and management program itself, your Report provides an update on the next steps to be taken with property owners to ensure that we can achieve the compliance that is needed to meet the UAW permit conditions, including follow up letters and an upcoming Water & Sewer Board review of abatement and enforcement regulations and potential changes to those regulations. From an operational standpoint, the on-going review of nighttime pumpage by the Water Superintendent shows that there are still leaks that need to be identified and then corrected. The trained Water Department personnel are using the acoustic equipment to survey all suspect piping that has been flagged through the monthly auto read program. This investment of resources has already been shown to have the best return and therefore the FY13 budget includes increased expenditures to be used in conjunction with the available grant funds to ensure that this critical program continues. The FY13 budget also includes some reduced costs due to the reduction in pumpage resulting from the much lower UAW.

Whenever aging water mains or inadequate connections are identified as a part of the on-going sewer or other infrastructure construction projects, the Water Superintendent makes an evaluation as to whether the water mains and connections should be replaced now while construction is on-going. The Water Department is recommending that the Board approve a Change Order to AECOM to replace a number of such water mains and services in the Beach Point area while the Phase 3 sewer construction is on-going. These include water mains and services on Cleveland and Schueler and water mains on Winston Court, Bayview, Hobson and Garfield. Very few of the properties in this area are occupied during the winter.

And finally, more good news for the Water Projects: we have received verbal notification from Ron Koontz of USDA that the Town will be receiving a second 40-year low-interest loan for the Water Projects in the amount of \$1.2 million. This means that virtually all of the planned water improvements work will be funded either by grants or through low interest USDA loans. This is a very important benefit for the Water Enterprise Fund that can help to ensure sound finances in the future including sufficient retained earnings to support future capital improvements that are needed without the need for rate increases. Financial Consultant Mark Abrahams will be updating the Board on Enterprise Fund finances for both Water and Wastewater at a February Selectmen’s meeting.

Turning to the Wastewater Project update, the Phase 3 collection system construction in the Beach Point and Bradford Street areas is continuing on or ahead of schedule thanks to the excellent winter weather to date. And, following a staff-level meeting with the Cape Cod Commission at the Treatment Plant in December, the DPW and AECOM are preparing the formal request for a modification to the maximum allowable capacity in the Town’s DRI permit, to be submitted next week. The schedule calls for all approvals to be obtained in the spring with construction to start this summer and for the remaining Phase 3 properties to be able to connect in the off-season a year from now. There is sufficient existing plant capacity to satisfy any public health needs that may be a

priority before the plant expansion is completed, as well as to add flows from any EDP requests for 2012 that the Board may approve.

The Sewer Team will provide the Board with an update at the February 27th Meeting on the DRI approval process for the Plant as well as a construction update including the plans for paving. Patch paving is currently being done as construction is completed in each area, with final paving to be done at a later date once the fill has properly settled.

The main focus of the Wastewater Update Report this month is on the status of the review of additional interest from the summer 2011 outreach program, including the forecasts for future municipal and public services uses and the additional flows that would be subject to the Growth Management Zoning By-Law. Based upon the review to date, the Sewer Team is recommending that the Town move forward with further optimization of the existing sewer system as well as the first stage of a Phase 4 extension of the sewer system and the engineering needed to decide what additional areas should be served during Phase 4. This recommendation will include a formal request at your February 27th meeting for support for a Warrant Article at the April 2012 Special Town Meeting for \$3.5 million of additional borrowing authorization to serve additional users and flows, all to be funded as usual from betterments from new users.

This request will include the following sewer optimization and expansion improvements:

1. Improvements to the central vacuum system and certain of the vacuum structures so as to optimize the existing vacuum sewer to serve more downtown business requests for additional flows as well as the interest of new users in this area. AECOM has completed its review of the improvements that will be needed to ensure adequate capacity for economic development and growth in the future as well as to meet the current interest and the Sewer Team recommends that the Board support its request to move forward with these improvements this year so that work can be completed before additional paving occurs in this area. The betterments from the additional flows and interest from about 25 properties can cover all of the costs for these improvements.
2. Potential additions to the Phase 3 sewer system to serve more properties located in portions of Commercial and Bradford Streets if the on-going engineering review shows that there are ways to serve these properties in a cost-effective manner.
3. The first stage of the Phase 4 expansion of the sewer system to serve the Coastal Acres Campground located in the environmentally sensitive Shank Painter Pond area as well as Administrative Consent Order properties, interested properties and economic development requests in the Province Lands Road and Bradford Street Extension area. Approximately 35 properties will be served in these areas.
4. Engineering analysis for other potential Phase 4 sewer extensions to serve the remaining interest identified in the summer 2011 outreach program, including the preparation of the information needed to submit a MCDBG application for a sewer connection for Maushope Housing and Outer Cape Health. Depending upon the results of the engineering analyses, the Sewer Team may be bringing recommendations for additional funding for further extension of the sewer during Phase 4 to Town Meeting in April of 2013. And, there may also be requests at that time to serve either or both the CCNS Herring Cove bathhouse and a new Police and DPW facility.

We have included three contract amendment requests for the Water Project in your Report. There are no other motions or policy decisions requested.

Mr. Mark White from Environmental Partners Group is here tonight to answer any questions that you

may have on the Water Projects and DPW Director David Guertin and I are available to answer other questions that you may have for either the Wastewater or the Water Updates.

Open discussion ensued and the Board complimented all on their continued excellent work.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to award Change Orders to AECOM in the amount of \$135,560 for Beach Point water work to be funded from Article I from the September 2009 Special Town Meeting.*

Motion by: *Austin Knight* **Seconded by:** *John Santos* **Yea 5 Nay 0**

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to award Contract Amendments in the amount of (i) \$30,000 to Mark Abrahams and (ii) \$30,000 to John Goodrich from Wastewater Articles.*

Motion by: *Austin Knight* **Seconded by:** *John Santos* **Yea 5 Nay 0**

2. COMMERCIAL STREET WATER MAIN-SERVICE CONTRACT

Attendees: Deputy Director Sandy Tuner and GHD Senior Project Manager Nathan Weeks.

Mr. Weeks gave an update. This Project was approved and funded through our April 2011 Annual Town Meeting Article #17 in the amount of \$850,000. GHD Inc. reviewed all bids and recommends Robert B. Our, Inc. as the successful bidder.

Board of Selectmen – Open discussion ensued regarding the 35% reduction from the original project.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to award the contract for the water main and service replacement in the areas of Freeman Street to the Post Office to Robert B. Our, Inc., 24 Great Western Road, Harwich, MA, in the amount of \$424,170.30.*

Motion by: *Austin Knight* **Seconded by:** *David McChesney* **Yea 5 Nay 0**

3. COMMERCIAL STREET UPDATE

Attendees: Deputy Director Sandy Tuner, and GHD Senior Project Manager Nathan Weeks

Mr. Weeks gave a brief update on this project. Things are coming together and in February they plan on having a 50% review. Will be coming before the Board of Selectmen with regular reports and information will be put on the website.

4. OTHER - None

Motion to adjourn by Austin Knight at 6:09 PM

Minutes transcribed by: Vernon G. Porter, Secretary to Board of Selectmen
January 25, 2012