

# TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS WASTEWATER COMMISSION

MINUTES  
May 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM

Members present: Commissioner Gail Barmakian and Commissioner Hans von Steiger

Others present: Bill Alwardt, Jim Monteith, Lisa Merritt, Andy Farrissey, John Roberts, Peter Bradford, Kevin Peters, Doug Ulwick, Lisa Reagan, Don Muckerheide and Brian Packish

## **I. MORATORIUM**

Gail Barmakian said that she brought up at the last meeting that she wanted a moratorium to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting. She said that she wanted the Board to contemplate not allowing new areas to be approved for sewerage because our existing capacity is questionable. Brian Packish asked what the exact number is that we have left for capacity. Gail Barmakian said that we do not have an exact number and that we are working on it with our engineer through a plant optimization study to get a better idea as to our true remaining processing capacity. Brian Packish said that he felt that a moratorium shouldn't be done if you don't have that number. Gail Barmakian said that Marc Drainville will be coming to a future meeting to outline the results of the optimization study and told Brian Packish that he is more than welcome to attend and he can ask his questions directly to the engineer himself. There was discussion about the plant upgrade and Hans von Steiger said that the plant upgrade is not a priority for the Town and they are looking to build a new Town Hall before doing a plant upgrade. Brian Packish suggested that the Commissioners come to a Planning Board meeting and let everyone know the importance of the plant upgrade as it cannot be a priority if no one knows about it. Don Muckerheide asked why we don't aerate the ponds to reduce their nitrogen levels and he said that the ponds will turn around in a few years without sewerage. Gail Barmakian said that could be another question for Marc Drainville.

## **II. CHAIRMANSHIP**

Gail Barmakian made a motion that Hans von Steiger continue as the Chairman of the Wastewater Commissioners. Hans von Steiger gave a second to the motion. Both votes in favor of the motion.

## **III. VINEYARD BASEBALL: BATHROOMS FOR PRACTICE FIELDS**

John Roberts said that the Sharks baseball team has been updating the field at the High School with new lights and bleachers all at no cost to the taxpayers and when they eventually leave the Island that the High School will get to keep all of the improvements that the Sharks did. John Roberts said that the Sharks would like to put in a restroom that would have two female bathroom stalls and one male bathroom stall as well as one urinal. He said that Dick Barbini designed a line that would be installed on the outskirts of the existing fields and then directly to the Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road pump station. John Roberts said that the High School teams such as the soccer, football and baseball teams would use them after school during their practices instead of having to go inside the High School like they do now. After some discussion Hans von Steiger made a motion to approve the bathrooms as presented. Gail Barmakian gave a second to the motion. Both votes in favor of the motion.

#### **IV. 77 TUCKERNUCK AVE. FLOW REQUEST: TWO BEDROOMS**

The request was withdrawn.

#### **V. 47 EAST CHOP DRIVE**

The East Chop Landing Apartments were granted two additional bedrooms of flow on January 11, 2012, but the permit had expired due to unforeseen circumstances and Doug Ulwick requested that the owner be able to move forward now with his project. Gail Barmakian made a motion to acknowledge that the previous application of January 11, 2012 had expired and this was a new application and she would like to make a motion in favor of two additional bedrooms of flow. Hans von Steiger gave a second to the motion. Both votes in favor of the motion.

#### **VI. REVIEW MINUTES**

Gail Barmakian made a motion to approve the minutes of March 16, 2016. Hans von Steiger gave a second to the motion. Both votes in favor of the motion.

#### **VII. BUDGET**

The Commissioners went over the budget and said that everything looked good.

#### **VIII. FACILITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Jim Monteith said that the vac truck was on the Island this past week, but broke down and had to return to the mainland and will probably return in the Fall.

#### **IX. COMMISSIONERS UPDATE**

Gail Barmakian said that she heard through Representative Keating that there might be EPA or State grant funding monies available for when we do our future plant expansion and we should keep that in mind.

Gail Barmakian made a motion to adjourn. Hans von Steiger gave a second to the motion. All votes in favor of the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.