



COHASSET SEWER COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

*In Attendance: William McGowan, Chairman
Wayne Sawchuk, Clerk
Paul Kierce
Brian Joyce
Dan Coughlin
Rod Hoffman*

Meeting Open: 10:03am

NOTICE: The Sewer Commission acknowledges the passing of John Beck at the age of 82. He will be missed.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 @ 10:00am Regular Meeting

Approval of 3/30/21 and 4/13/21 Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: Bill McGowan Motions to approve meeting minutes from 3/30/21 & 4/13/21: Wayne Sawchuk seconds. All in favor

NPDES Permit public comment:

Nitrogen permit. Public comment period ends May 10. Refer to list Brian Joyce emailed. Discussion about whether or not it's appropriate to ask for a 5-10% increase on usage outflow. Being at 71% is ok, if we ask for increase we would have to restart the process. If CJC and Cook Estates connect to sewer it would bump us up to 80% threshold, however, they look at calendar rolling average, not the periodic bump up. Flows are still within the design realm of the facility. The new permit is good for 5 years. Calculations done by DC on S. Main St. shows it up to 17-18 gals per day for flow. Those types of residential areas tend to be a little less than that.

The 12 month rolling average in December was 321 that would need to exceed the 360 mark. Even with S. Main and other connections it may still fall below the 80% level. DC refers to summary he just sent regarding the permit. EPA (local state authority) has asked CZM to give an opinion relative to the feasibility of the coastal communities under the general permit. They may still ask for lower limits. EPA is looking for a comprehensive master sewer plan. Cohasset has about 2 years to come up with the master sewer plan. GIS is probably the easiest to use.

Brian Joyce says engineering has scanned the As-Built plans as a hyperlink to certain areas. The base is there but more work required to get the referencing right. 2 years is reasonable timeframe. It's been done on the water side but not sewer yet. DC suggests some attributes be included like lengths of pipe between manholes, diameter, pipe material and distance between nodes.

DC mentions they are also looking for an updated collection system O&M plan of which would be incorporated into the existing I/I. Weston and Sampson developed one year ago, it should be updated within the next 2 years.

Discussion on WET Test (determines if our wastewater is toxic to marine life)- this is done every quarter for the past 15 years or so. WET test has always come back as very good.



COHASSET SEWER COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

The nitrogen level in the harbor is very variable. New requirement is to examine the outfall every 2 years. Inspect and videotape them. The commission would have to hire a diver to do this.

There should be a schedule of the tasks that have to be done every 2 years. The first dive was done on our own so we have a baseline. There are new requirements on the operators that have to be reviewed and discussed. Commercial and Industrial use should be looked at. Refer to DC summary.

Discussion on testing continues.

WS: wondering if the detergents used in commercial dishwasher in restaurants contain ingredients that would effect Cohasset water in a negative light - we may want to do a door to door inspection.

380, 390, 400 Chief Justice Cushing Highway:

Attorney DeLisi, on behalf of Mr. Staszko (Cohasset Associates); Dave Hudson of Tetra Tech; Mark Negrotti of Tetra Tech

Attorney DeLisi opens discussion: Application filed last week for sewer connection for 380, 390, 400 CJC. 20 residential affordable units count towards town Affordable Housing inventory. The public amenity would allow commissioners to consider an application to connect this property, there is an Environmental benefit as well. The proposal is to bring gravity sewer main to the property to a manhole at the Trupelo road pump station. The project construction continues. The residential units are a month away. A deed restriction has been drafted and presented to town manager. Today's topic is to show the commission what is being proposed from an engineering standpoint. And to answer any questions DC points out the development agreement is not in packet provided by Cohasset Associates. DeLisi confirms, there are key components that need to be discussed, one being the connection fee, before signed agreement.

Cohasset Associates are proposing to construct the line and pay the difference in the fee between what the actual cost of construction would be in the fee. Mr. Staszko would be willing to discuss an option of providing access over his property for the Cooke Estate to connect. Discussion on the cost calculation based on flow continues. One of the key points is taking into account of 'change of use'. These are vacant units and there is no way to determine what type of businesses will be renting the space. CSC took into account historical uses, Tetra Tech Engineers look at current use, may be where the discrepancy lies. DeLisi: pointing out the septic system presently servicing Stop and Shop, was oversized and the town took into the oversized system rather than the actual water that is used, The flows should be reviewed again. Discussion of gravity line vs force main. The type of facilities to have within that right of way is something that needs to be discussed. The application submitted needs to be reviewed in a timely manner. The application is for property located outside the sewer district, the applicant would typically have to go to town meeting to get the town to expand the sewer district. The sewer commission is looking at it right now is because of the affordable housing aspect (40B component). This 40B should be part of the development agreement. The development agreement is key to allow the sewer commission to consider this application for connection. DeLisi is not asking for a vote today, he is asking the commission to review the plans and to give some direction as whether or not the plans are viable and appropriate in this location. And then move on to the particularities of the agreement. The CSC needs sufficient time to consider the application. DeLisi responds that we are all working in good faith as to what is good for the Town of Cohasset and will allow the town to take the time it needs. The board will talk about it. the connection rate is non-negotiable. And the development agreement is a key ingredient to the application.



COHASSET SEWER COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

WS pointed out that CSC requested the applicants' engineers come in and discuss what they want to do and to show how the connection to the plant would be done. Today's agenda should be to have Tetra Tech make a presentation to us and tell us what they would like to do. Key issue is CSC don't know who will be renting the facility and will not know what the flow will be.

Tetra Tech: Mark Negrotti, engineer for Cohasset Associates, is sharing screen and walks through presentation packet provided on behalf of Cohasset Associates.

The application will have to go to MassDot for an access permit to get onto the highway.

WS asked if the pipe can be a stronger, ie. Blue group, to protect it in the future. MN responds it can be but feels there is not a need for it, but if CSC want to use blue group, they will accommodate.

The project may be close to ground water as they get close to Tupelo road. Tetra Tech is doing more research and awaiting As-Built drawings from town engineering. If not available they will do test pitting. WS would like DigSafe to be called. Flowfill is not a requirement from MassDot. Cohasset district requires flowfill BJ notes that the pitch for gravity needs to be done correctly, to eliminate interference. Additionally the I/I is major issue. FEMA Floodmaps of 3A need to be looked at because half of this line is within that floodmap. Underscores the importance of watertightness on everything.

The applicant should do an alternative analysis. CSC will start the process of evaluating the application and will discuss at next meeting. DeLisi mentions Senator O'Connor is taking an interest in this project because of the affordable housing aspect.

Check for \$20,000 was submitted with the application. Check is being held in the Treasurers vault.

RH can address in the letter to confirm how CSC can use this \$20,000 for the application.

Presentation for rate increase:

WM circulated his presentation for tonight's SB meeting. If the SB approves it great - if not, the funds will come out of our capital budget.

Engineering Service Contract:

Vote next meeting 5/11/21

Bill McGowan logged off meeting at 12:04pm

Sewer Application, Connection/Disconnection and Modified Use Permit Policies:

Rod Hoffman had minor edits and will be voted next meeting 5/11/21

Grinder Pump Release update:

Sewer bills posted today some still have the GP fee.

Diab Lane Lots:

Refer to letter from Katie Dugan, WS thinks its based on misinformation that they were not valid lots. To date Mr. Shannon has not submitted the additional application fee amount of \$2,100.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:09pm

MOTION: Wayne Sawchuk motions to adjourn, Paul Kierce seconds. All in favor