

**RECEIVED**

**Sewer Commissioners Meeting  
Minutes of Tuesday, March 28, 2017  
Bourne Community Building  
Bourne, MA 02532**

**2017 AUG 18 AM 11:14**

**TOWN CLERK BOURNE**  
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**Sewer Commissioners**

Peter Meier, Chairman  
Michael Blanton, Vice-Chairman  
Stephen Mealy, Clerk  
Don Pickard  
George Slade

Note this meeting is being televised and recorded. If anyone in the audience is recording or videotaping, they need to acknowledge such at this time – Michael Rausch Bourne Enterprise

All agenda items herein may be subject to a vote by or other action of the of Board of Sewer Commissioners

**Meeting Called to Order**

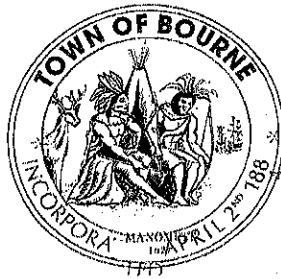
Chm. Meier called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

**1) Public Comment**

**2) Update on progress and cost estimate for wastewater facility in the Queen Sewell area of Buzzards Bay. Weston and Sampson will provide the Commissioners an update an overview.**

Wes Ewell introduced Blake Martin, Vice President of Weston & Sampson and Fran Yanuskiewicz Principal at Weston & Sampson.

Blake Martin spoke about where they are with the wastewater treatment project and the next steps moving forward with the wastewater treatment facility at Queen Sewell Park. Mr. Martin brought the committee up to date on the past work, the MEPA filing, Plant Modifications, the next steps, and other steps they will take going forward.



## **Bourne WWTF Planning and Design**

March 28, 2017

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Weston & Sampson

### **Past Work**

- Conducted Preliminary Hydrogeologic investigation on Community Center and Queen Sewall Park properties
- Submitted Work Plan for detailed evaluation at Queen Sewall
- Submitted report and obtained DEP approval
  - 335,000 gpd flow at 3 gpd/sq ft
  - Mitigation of flow to Buttermilk Bay
  - Percolation testing at appropriate site elevation

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Weston & Sampson

## MEPA

- Supported filing for lower design flow rate of 100,000 gpd to suit area needs
- Alluded to mitigation by sewerage 60 to 80 homes upgradient of Buttermilk Bay
- Additional permitting requirements identified
- CZM, CCC, Division of Marine Fisheries, DEP-SERO approvals

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Weston & Sampson

## Plant Modifications

- Reduced disposal field size to reduce costs and to suit Police Station building footprint/location
- Met with DEP to discuss requirement of mitigation by sewerage @ Buttermilk Bay
- GWDP field design based on 6 gpd/sq. ft. without conducting a load scale test
- Submitted added justification to MA DEP - Boston for higher effluent loading rate

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Weston & Sampson

## Next Steps

- Work with DEP to provide additional details on flow sources and volumes; and pumping and transmission system
- Added detail to justify 6 gpd/sq ft field design loading rate
- Develop approach for PEF and for State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan application

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Weston & Sampson

## Other Steps

- Obtain commitments from Developer(s)
- Submit additional process documentation
- Provide treatment facility details for DEP and permit approvals
- Develop flow sources and volumes in support of application
- Complete Project Financing Plan
- Coordinate with Police Station Design

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Weston & Sampson

Mr. Martin said we have submitted a ground water discharge permit and information to DEP. Mr. Martin spoke about the Queen Sewell Park Wastewater Treatment Facility plan that was submitted to DEP for approval. The flow from the plant will go towards the canal and that is in conformance with not trying to impact Buttermilk Bay. The field size is based on 6 gallon per day per sq. ft. area. This will be a flow going into the ground of 100,000 gallons per day. The DEP reserves the right to look at final percolation testing for the fields prior to being constructed. The percolation testing would have to be done at the right elevations. We worked with Wes Ewell and the Committee to help submit the MEPA filing. Mass Environmental Policy Act requires the project be put before MEPA and obtain a permit from the Secretary of Environmental Affairs. It goes through Agency Review. The MEPA certificate was granted.

Wes Ewell spoke about the next steps for the Wastewater Advisory Committee. Because this is a wastewater treatment facility we have to go through far more permitting and far more engineering analyses than if we were just building a building. We also had to step back and redo some of the work that was previously done and we will also have to resubmit with MEPA because of the town's decision to locate the Police Station on the same site. The Wastewater Advisory Committee voted unanimously to hold off until an October Town Meeting to ask for a borrowing authorization for the construction. They are not asking for a debt exclusion, they are not asking for an override, they are asking for borrowing authority. We are not asking to pay for that through local property taxes the payment of the bonds will be paid over the years from the users of the facility. There is going to be a need for some town investment in this. Wes Ewell went over the funds they have gotten and where the funds came from and what the funds were used for. Once we get the borrowing authority in the fall and we are assuming we will get a grant that will partially cover this work including some of the engineering work, but in the meantime the Committee would like to proceed as quickly as possible. One thing they decided to do was to get an OPM on board as soon as possible. They would like to ask you to support an article at the Special Town Meeting in May to see if the town would vote to continue design and permitting work on a proposed wastewater treatment facility to serve downtown Buzzards Bay and appropriate the sum of \$335,000 to cover the following work: \$150,000 to continue Weston & Sampson's work on design and permitting, \$100,000 to engage the services of an Owners Project Manager to oversee the development and construction of the facility, \$63,000 to conduct a static load test of groundwater infiltration; that test may be required to prove to the DEP that we only need one leaching field and not two, \$8,000 to continue Wes Ewell's fees through October, \$10,000 for engineering and legal fees required to apply for the construction funding for the revolving loan fund, and \$4,000 for advertising and incidental costs. That should carry the whole project through to the point where we actually bond it for construction.

Stephen Mealy spoke about the original intent that was to ask for the full amount of money to start construction. The monies that Mr. Ewell has outlined will cover the costs of the engineering required to bring us up and conduct the testing as indicated and finish the permitting process.

**Voted** Stephen Mealy moved and seconded by Michael Blanton to approve the recommendation of the Waste Water Advisory Committee to request at the Special Town Meeting, this Spring, to raise, appropriate, or transfer from available funds or borrow a sum of money for the purpose of funding the engineering design and permitting work for a wastewater treatment facility to be located at Queen Sewell Park to serve down town Buzzards Bay in the amount of \$335,000 which would be submitted to the Capital Outlay Committee for review and they would sponsor it at the Town Meeting.

Don Pickard stated he thought we requested them to pass on this and move on to other issues the Board of Sewer Commissioners assigned to them. This should come from the Town Administrator. Questioned the estimate for the OPM. We said a building committee needs to be developed.

Stephen Mealy said this is not coming from the Wastewater Advisory Committee this is coming from the Board of Sewer Commissioners directing the Town Administrator to replace the article in the Town Meeting through the Capital Outlay Committee. It will go through the regular appropriations as every other project has. This should be handled as other construction and large Capital Outlay projects by the town have been handled in the past.

Michael Blanton said this has been vetted through the same process as other large projects. The Wastewater Advisory Committee has come forward and completed their assignment. They have submitted a proposal for us to consider. It is our body who will be deliberating and making a recommendation.

Gary Maloney, Buzzards Bay, questioned the money difference in the draft minutes from the 15<sup>th</sup>. Mary Jane Mastrangelo said there was a shift around. The original amount included money for a bid documents. Mary Jane Mastrangelo explained why the difference in the amounts.

Gary Maloney questioned what is the total cost before we decide to move forward with the project, and how soon would any town's people find out if we will move forward? Stephen Mealy said after the load test and the permitting is received from the state, we will have a definitive answer of whether we go forward at the Special Town Meeting in October.

Gary Maloney questioned do we know who will use these 100,000 gallons so we know who these impact fees will be paid by. Peter Meier questioned if 100,000 is going to be sufficient. What if we go for 200,000 is there a significant difference? We Ewell said yes there is a big difference. If we put it on the site part of the discharge could leach towards Buttermilk Bay. Then we have to start talking about mitigation.

A gentleman from Buzzards Bay questioned the migration of effluent going towards Buzzards Bay, is that because of nitrogen loading. Blake Martin explained that treated effluent would go into the subsurface disposal system join groundwater flow and move towards the canal. In the model of 100,000 gallons per day we don't show any flow going to

Buttermilk Bay. The plan that was submitted to MEPA is that the membrane plant would try to operate at five parts per million of nitrogen, the permit will be written for ten but the goal is to make that a nitrogen reducing plant that has a low discharge limit for nitrogen.

Don Pickard spoke about the proposed article for the May Special Town Meeting requested by the Wastewater Advisory Committee. He questioned if anyone on the Wastewater Advisory Committee or other town departments have any independent assessment of the numbers?

Wes Ewell and Tom Guerino explained the numbers and how they came up with the amounts. Mr. Ewell also spoke about the funding. Wes Ewell said he don't see any potential for having to come back and ask for any more money. Mary Jane Mastrangelo, Chair of the Capital Outlay Committee, said this is a good investment in this project. This project is complex due to the permitting. The question of the \$63,000 for the load, I would rather get that done and get the discharge permit and know going into Town Meeting that they have approved the 6 gallons per day per sq. ft. Ms. Mastrangelo spoke about the keystone building and solving the revenue problem in the town. We need to make the investment in wastewater in order to develop Buzzards Bay. There will be a Capital Outlay Meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> where we will consider this so we can finalize it for Town Meeting.

Don Pickard said he is inclined to vote against it based on the process, and asked for the motion to be read again.

Peter Meier reread the motion.

Stephen Mealy said he has a draft of an article that he will submit on behalf of the Sewer Commissioners requesting the Capital Outlay Committee take this under advisement, make a recommendation and sponsor the article at Town Meeting. There has been a number of very high profile projects that are being run by volunteer committees. We should as a Board recognized that and take action to hire the correct people. We need to let the town and the professionals run the large project not volunteer committees.

Don Pickard questioned if Mr. Ewell is aware of any potential purchase of property in Buzzards Bay by the hotel developer or property owner for the purpose of building their own wastewater treatment facility. Wes Ewell said not that he is aware of. The only sight anywhere near here that is suitable for sub-surface discharge is the Queen Sewell Park site. Without that there is no way a private developer could do an individual plan.

Mrs. Riggs said she has not either and would agree with what Mr. Ewell said. They studied every parcel in the downtown area for wastewater disposal. The properties along Main Street are not appropriate for disposal whether it is town or private.

Mary Jane Mastrangelo spoke about process; the Wastewater Advisory Committee is making their recommendation to the Board of Sewer Commissioners that this \$335,000 be the next step in the development of the process. The Sewer Commissioners should accept that recommendation and refer it to the Capital Outlay Committee for their review and

recommendation because it is the Capital Outlay Committee that makes the recommendation to Town Meeting on the development and improvement of land in the town of Bourne. The article is not what the motion should be the Board of Sewer Commissioners accepts this recommendation and refer it to the Capital Outlay Committee for review and presentation at the Town Meeting. The Capital Outlay Committee will meet and make their recommendation; then it will go forward as an article. You need to get the funding in place. If the Board of Sewer Commissioners recommends this to the Capital Outlay Committee we will follow the appropriate process.

Mary Jane Mastrangelo said if the developer who needs an additional 60,000 gallons to complete his development has decided it will be more cost effective for him to purchase land and do his own package treatment plant that would actually be very helpful to this project because instead of using 60,000 gallons of the 100,000 gallons we have a more appropriate amount. Weather that developer is going in a different direction we still need this project because we need the capacity.

Gary Maloney questioned going to the 200,000, why are we considering going for more than 100,000

Michael Blanton said we know there is development that is going to occur on Main Street. This allocation will help meet that in the short term, but it will not meet all of the future needs for the projected development for downtown Buzzards Bay. We are having regional conversations about a larger full-scale sewer treatment plant in the south coast area between the communities of Wareham, Marion, and potentially Mattapoisett, and that is in the longer term. That is more of a ten-year project. If we wait for that project we will lose out on the opportunities that this short-term project can get us now.

Gary Maloney questioned the reserve area. Blake Martin said we have never seen a field fail. The reserve area is a requirement of the design requirements of DEP. It is not intended to actually be used; it has to be there. It is located in the area where 100% of the flow will go to the canal.

Peter Meier said we need to move forward with this because if we want any positive development in Buzzards Bay this is the direction it is going to go. We need the revenue and we need to change the image of the village.

Tom Guerino questioned if we build a couple 100,000 gallons and it kicks it over the water line and it starts pushing it towards Buttermilk Bay, is there an engineering way to do a collection area for that migration and put in a lift station to push it back? Blake said you are talking about a hypothetical slope. If the plans expanded 335,000 gallons per day, 30% of that flow treated down to 5 parts per million will go towards Buttermilk Bay. You need to mitigate that nitrogen load to Buttermilk Bay. Nitrogen can be taken out by sewerage some of the homes that are on septic systems that have higher nitrogen loads. You might need to sewer 60 to 80 homes. There are ways to capture it before it goes into Buttermilk Bay.



Peter Meier questioned what the life of this is. Blake said the plant is a 20-year life plan but it often lasts longer.

Fran Yanuskiewicz spoke about what the Mass Maritime is doing and also spoke about allowing effluent discharge into the ocean.

Fran Yanuskiewicz said the whole issue about the discharge into a bay isn't allowed and hasn't been allowed in years. Recent legislation passed that said it does open the door to an expansion. That is why this long-term plan of putting a discharge that is regional into the canal is being looked at. It has the support of environmental agencies in the state. That is the reason why those funds are being expended by Wareham to start planning for a much bigger facility discharging into the canal.

**Vote 5-0.**

**3) Report of the Wastewater advisory Committee – Recommendation for Town Meeting Article and budget for feasibility discussion and possible action by the Board.**

**4) Next Meeting Date**

The next Sewer Commissioner's Meeting will be on April 25, 2017 at 6:00

**5) Adjourn**

**Voted** Stephen Mealy moved and seconded by George Slade to adjourn at 6:50 P.M.  
**Vote 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted – Carole Ellis, secretary.