

Town of Tisbury  
Sewer Advisory Board  
Open Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 20, 2018

**Meeting Convened:** 4:00

**Sewer Advisory Board Present:** Jeff Kristal, Josh Goldstein, John Best & Jeff Pratt

**Absent:** Melinda Loberg, Dan Seidman, Tomar Waldman

**Audience Present:** Paul Ernst (WW), Michael Alberice (WW), James Stinemire (WW), Bob Rafferty (EP), and Paul Lodi (Blue Crab Kitchen)

**Approval of May 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes:**

Jeff: Let's jump down to Peter.

**Peter Lodi – Fella's on Union:**

Jeff Kristal: The reason Peter is here because his flow expires. Fella's was granted flow and was expected to lose it at the end of this month if he didn't utilize it. I asked Peter to come to tell us what he is doing so he can keep the flow going while he works out the first year kinks.

Peter Lodi: We are at 20 Union. Full time catering, private chef service out the back but because of the location and buildout that Fella's did, we're going to try to utilize it as a restaurant and try to be open breakfast, lunch, and dinner and make a French Oyster Bar. We do need a liquor license in order to be competitive with the other restaurants, we need our flow to have people in. My expectations is to get through this summer with all our private events and then the whole off season we will be working on the bar. A market and café during the daytime and our clients can come in and do tastings and a nice place for lunch or dinner.

Jeff Kristal: He still needs to go to the BOH and Building but instead of him losing the flow and having to start all over again I just wanted him to talk to come talk to us and let us know what the plan is.

Jeff Pratt: Is there any change in the seating number?

Josh Goldstein: It was a 50seat flow.

John Best: So if you don't use the restaurant this summer you would normally lose the flow?

Peter: I'm on the ZBA Agenda July 12th to operate food service with outdoor seating and so our plan was to open a market 8am – 3pm everyday – premade foods. Some tables and chairs – just to be open this summer for occupancy – no beer or wine yet – just top open the doors. We typically leave for an event at 4pm.

John Best: Why wouldn't that alone allow you to keep the permit?

Jeff Kristal: Seats – we don't know how many seats are gonna be in there and how many diners will be served out back.

Josh Goldberg: Motion to extend his flow until July 1, 2020. Then we could put a stamp on it . . . All this stuff is going to take time so let's take some of the pressure off.

Jeff Pratt seconds motion

Motion unanimously approved

**Center Street Road Work – sewer implications:**

Bob Rafferty: That was Ray's issue, I was there with him today to see if we had to put more sewer in before paving – taking care of some drainage issues in the road and wanted to make sure no sewer work had to be down.

Jeff Kristal: How far up are we doing?

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Bob Rafferty: From downtown up to the courts.

Jeff Kristal: Is everything stubbed out?

Paul Ernst: We don't know if anything is stubbed out, for the inside it's not tubbed out.

Jeff Kristal: So from Center & William how far does the sewer go up there?

Paul Ernst: Goes up to 14 Center.

Mike Alberice: I think the plan says it goes about half way up and we speculated that it goes a little further up but there's no actual plan.

Jeff Kristal: So no one actually plans on tying in to the sewer up there.

Bob Rafferty: There are no pending plans to extend.

Josh Goldstein: Could we find it while we are ripping up the road?

Jeff Kristal: They're just ripping up the intersection of Center & West William Street?

Bob Rafferty: Yes, fixing the drainage in that intersection . . .

Jeff Kristal: Making it a little more ADA compliant.

Bob Rafferty: There's some sidewalk work and paving . .

James Stinemire: We can go look for manholes, just start popping them and see how far it goes.

Paul Ernst: We can actually just climb in there . . .there's nothing in there.

Jeff Kristal: There's no implication with the sewer with the work they are going to do . .

Josh Goldstein: If you could keep an eye on that while they are tearing it up & make a note of it for our own education.

**Update on Leach Field Testing:**

Bob Rafferty: We met with the DEP again and talked about having to drill additional wells. They are not worried about mounding ground water anymore because it's 100 feet down – worried more about the field's capacity to handle the additional lode.

Jeff Kristal: Which leeching fields?

Bob Rafferty: Both, so we are laying out the scope of work that Mark White is going to review next week to present to DEP for approval. We're trying to get the ground water model out of the state so we can use it. It's a lot simpler than they originally told us – we're hoping to do the testing in August or September.

Jeff Pratt: Will this give us more information of what an increased leaching lode can handle?

Bob Rafferty: Absolutely, we're gonna load it up till it can't take anymore. We are putting shallow wells around the field and look in the vents and we'll see what the ground water does when we load it we're gonna split the fields in half so it's like doubling the load and we'll add water from the water tower to both fields. The minimum is to get to the 140K to handle that ecologically then keep loading it to see what we can get out of it.

John Best: Will the State let us use that maximum load figure?

Jeff Kristal: Will they let us go over if it is proven that the leeching field can go over the capacity?

Bob Rafferty: That's a whole different investment though . .

Jeff Pratt: I thought you couldn't exceed 80 of the maximum load . .

Bob Rafferty: . . .without a plan – this is just testing and we have a plan. We just have to notify the DEP of what we have to do at each step – part of the next phase is to upgrade the plant to get you to the 140K – they are already on board with that.

**State Road Sewer District Continued Discussion – cost sharing & tie-in policies:**

Jeff Kristal: We need to talk about cost share – you guys do some cost share with the DPW now, right?

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Paul Ernst: Yes.

Jeff Kristal: I saw some numbers a little while ago – the electrical numbers where the DPW paid \$500 waste water but I believe they used more?

Paul Ernst: We now put in a meter that meters theirs directly and it's been more than \$500.

Jeff Kristal: It's not on the agenda but there is more cost sharing the rate payers are paying for – the taxpayers are using, man power too. The guys were out plowing and it was probably wastewater that was paying.

Jeff Kristal: State Road Sewer District Tie-In Policies

Bob Rafferty: This was the stuff from last year that Melinda asked me to resend. On State Road how do you want to apportion costs – constructing a main spine that the town pays for then splitting off the main users, do you wanna do 50/50? How do you want to approach it because in July we will be kicking off the design of the sewer district there – and it needs to be figured out how and if it is to be billed.

Jeff Kristal: I like some of the names you used other than betterment. Would we be doing something like that for State Road?

Bob Rafferty: State Road would be a betterment because it's all brand new. But there are some costs that original users paid into: General Benefits Facilities, the big parts – treatment plants, pump stations, if they are already in use and you expect people to tie into them they should pay a proportion of the cost to build and that's part of the equation. If people are connecting in the Center they vote was that whatever the 20 lifespan of the system is – we're in 15, you're only going to pay . .

Josh Goldstein: We amortize it.

Jeff Pratt: As the State Road properties get developed many of those are in the Tashmoo District. If they wish to expand, get rid of septic or sell property with expected changes, they are going to have to install a denite. If they have the option to tie into the system even if they are not an abutter but they may want to tie in.

Josh Goldstein: We would welcome them, they have to pay for all the pipe they need to lay, pay the amortized betterment fee and pay per gallon.

Jeff Kristal: If someone wants to tie in 1000 feet away and lays the pipe do the other properties abutters have the right to tie into that line by law?

John Best: The district has already been approved – you can't let someone 1000ft out of the district just tie in.

Bob Rafferty: Once a district has been designed you have to go back to town meeting to expand the district.

Jeff Kristal: Ok so you can't just tie in you have to go petition. The other problem, we are creating another district basically 80% increase of the existing – why don't we have an independent waste water department or be with the water works department – it's getting big, it's more than a couple people can handle – more substantial than an offshoot of the DPW.

Josh Goldberg: It would be nice to have one enterprise fund to take care of the waste coming in and going out.

Bob Rafferty: It does vary but many towns share staff of water and sewer. Most towns have one overseeing department – Public Works, then you have a Highway Department, Grounds Department, Cemetery, . . there's heads for each one of those.

Paul Ernst: A lot have a Utilities Department that includes waste water, storm water, could include lights.

Jeff Pratt: Where would Ray be on that idea . . .

John Best: We do have all those under the DPW except for Water – and that's by historical precedent – the DPW wasn't in existence when that was created.

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Jeff Pratt: The Tisbury Water Works is an independent commissioner based public utility but not necessarily under the direction of the Town of Tisbury.

Jeff Kristal: It's actually under the town but has it's 3 independent commissioners.

Josh Goldstein: There stuff still has to be approved at town meeting.

Jeff Pratt: But their salary structure is different . . . .

John Best: No, it came back . . .

Jeff Kristal: I'm just looking at the new district and this is becoming a big thing. We need to look at efficiencies . . . Water is taking over the billing for Waste Water in 6 months –

Josh Goldstein: Water works owns all the heavy equipment these guys could need.

Jeff Kristall: So why are we creating more and more . . .

John Best: If we're looking at efficiencies way don't we bring the water department into the DPW?

Jeff Kristal: There's a statute – it was created that way.

Paul Ernst: More importantly with the water commissioners don't want to come to the DPW.

Jeff Kristal: You can't mix the enterprise fund with the taxpayer funds to share and to do.

Jeff Pratt: We're doing some perk testing to see if we can get up to the 140K gallons, establishing and looking at numbers for establishing a State Road District and then it will layout the workload, how much is that workload and can the current staff handle that workload and I think that would be a matter for Paul and his work staff and Ray.

Josh Goldstein: And can the current users afford because if you need to add another body that's more money and our rates if you recall are some of the highest.

Jeff Kristal: When we are talking about cost sharing is it Enterprise Fund and DPW or Water Enterprise Fund and Waste water Enterprise Funds . . . it's blanket and that's why I threw it out there because I don't know if it's best that we're tied to DPW and why we're not tied to Water.

Jeff Pratt: Paradigm redesigns . . . I was unaware that waste water employees are plowing snow – I'm concerned.

Mike Alberice: When it was overtime after they day we would punch in when it was during the day we were already punched in.

Jeff Pratt: So you were already on the clock – it was a change in assigned duty.

Jeff Kristal: They should have been paid out of the Snow & Ice Fund. Do you need anything from us on this Bob?

Bob Rafferty: No, you just need to think as we continue to develop all the costs so that we can be ready for town meeting and let then know how we want to finance this.

John Best: When we did it the first time it was deemed to be a benefit for the whole town, the town picked up 50% and the individual users picked up 50%..The primary motivation to do State Road is not nutrient reduction . . .a good deal is in the Tashmoo watershed but a good deal needs to be sewer

Josh Goldstein: Existing sewer users should be exempt from that 50%.

John Best: Then we need to bet to the point of when we are sewerage someone because they are purely in the watershed and nitrogen reduce and they have plenty of room for a new system we have to think harder on that . . I maintain that the year rounds and not the others – it's more than a 50/50 split. . . .if we can put a number on there betterment - I would say that the whole watershed should be picking up more than 50% of that cost – not the homeowner. It's almost punitive for the year rounders to get hit with sewer fees that they have no need for but because they don't live on the other side of the street.

Jeff Pratt: I don't know if you build it they may want to use it. I'm going to agree with Josh & Jeff that that could be on another agenda.

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Jeff Kristal: Business owners are looking to build employee housing for the district would need upgrading for a sewer. Can we get the number of the age of the existing septic systems in the district from the BOH?

Jeff Pratt: How many existing septic systems lie within the proposed district & their ages? OK?

Josh Goldstein: When were they last inspected.

Jeff Pratt: They are on top of that. . . . I will take care of that.

Jeff Kristal: We have to sell people on this in this district.

**Next Meeting – July 18,2018@4pm: approved**

**Approval of May 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes:**

Postponed to next meeting

**Motion were made to adjourn at 4:30 by Jeff Kristal, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Josh Goldstein  
Unanimously approved.**

This document is the official Minutes of Tisbury Sewer Advisory Board held on June 20, 2018. These minutes were presented and duly voted and approved by the Advisory Board at the Open Meeting held on

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Chairperson

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