

**Sewer Advisory Committee
January 15, 2020
Minutes**

Attending: From the Committee: Christina Colorusso, Jeff Pratt, Nancy Gilfoy, Dan Seidman, John Best, Melinda Loberg
From Wastewater Planning: Gerry Hokanson, Nancy Gilfoy, Melinda Loberg, Michael Loberg, Sheri Caseau
Tisbury Staff: Jon Snyder, Maura Valley, Jay Grande, David Thompson
MVC Staff: Sheri Caseau
Oak Bluffs: Gail Barmakian, Select Board
Guests: Marc Drainville and Anastasia Rudenko, GHD

Minutes: The minutes of January 15, 2020 were approved unanimously as written.

Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (Oak Bluffs): Marc Drainville and Anastasia Rudenko from GHD

- Purpose of CWMP in Oak Bluffs: water quality issues; update of expiring CWMP; need to plan for additional flow; requirement for state funding
- Overall wastewater needs of the town – not just sewer – need to be quantified.
- Will look to various solutions – goal of best and most cost-effective solutions.
- Outlined the process of developing a CWMP
- Plan of Study in 2017 developed and sent to MEPA: Tisbury is on this distribution list
- Three phases: Needs Assessment; Alternatives Evaluation; Plan. A twenty-year planning horizon. Need to address nutrient management and growth in the impaired estuaries. Updating the needs -
- Used MEP reports to characterize the nutrient loading. Assume 90% of water use for a parcel goes into the wastewater system. Ground-truthing was performed. Assumptions on attenuation – how much of the nutrients are taken up by the ground during the journey to the pond. Goal is to meet the TMDL.
- Need to understand new growth in OB area and Tisbury area that will impact the load. ie YMCA was sewered since the CWMP. New growth needs to be characterized in both Towns' LP Watershed.
- Adaptive Management Plan: required part of the CWMP
- Maps were shown that identified OB and Tisbury's parcels in the Lagoon Pond and Tashmoo watersheds.
- Alternatives Analysis: what is the most useful to the community? Must come from DEP's list of approved alternatives. If you use something not yet approved, you must have a back-up plan using an approved option. Must also quantify the "no action" option.
- For Lagoon Pond: OB is looking to a combination of Nitroe, Santoe, PRB and sewer extension. For Tashmoo: looking for an Inter-Municipal Agreement to swap load allocation. Need to develop a financial plan too.

- OB wants to finalize their CWMP by the end of 2020. Not only within the Town boundaries, but also watershed based. David cited the Pleasant Bay agreement. Discussion around the contributions of West Tisbury to both the Lagoon and Tashmoo. We need to reach out to them to participate.
- Sheri C. stated that the MVC was also working on a 208-equivalent plan and would focus on an up-island/down-island element.
- Cape and Islands Water Protection Trust: OB does not wish to participate.
- OB will continue to notify Tisbury about their progress and submittals and hope to iron out each town's contribution in the Lagoon. Our first step should be to open up dialogue with West Tisbury. Gail and Melinda will be authorized to do this.
- We can take advantage of the Mass Estuaries Program to model potential solutions.

Doreen Kinsman – 5 Beach Rd. (Sports Haven) request to tie into the sewer. She has an allocation, been paying a betterment and has a pump station on her property. Her request will be approved by David. This was triggered by a requirement to have her septic inspection. They are required to pump and fill their septic tank. Motion to approve: unanimous.

Budget: David distributed an updated budget and warrant articles (attached). Expenses are running close to budget. Now the personnel column has been re-populated with David coming on board as well as a new part-time person. Questions about the retained earnings – sometimes collect more than anticipated. There will be no change to the per-gallon price for treatment. The last rate adjustment took place in 2018.

Article: borrow to build sewer collection system expansion in State Rd. and to improve the sewer plant. The amount must be increased by \$400,000 to do additional engineering. Also, there is some question about the amount requested to install the bypass at the pump station. We may already have this funding set aside. We will keep this article in for the present, but may not need it this year. However, David contends that we must have a bypass pump in any case. (Could have worked to assist in the culvert repair on Lambert's Cove Rd.). \$70-75,000 approximately. Note: could apply for a Coastal Resilience Grant??

Motion to support the budget: approve unanimously

Meeting with DEP (Brian Dudley)- report attached

- Advice: Don't go piecemeal in the State Rd. District: all should tie-in
- There can be a projected life expectancy on current systems time-line for tie-in.
- Question: DEP states that sewer flow for the State Rd. District can only be used in that district. If we had capacity over and above the nitrogen needs, then we could consider using a mass balance process to allot extra flow. We need to size the district for a max use of septic flows and allow only for that growth to occur. After that we need to add more capacity.
- Air B&B funds: David recommends earmarking it for nitrogen mitigation rather than wastewater needs.
- The new alternative systems are in reality, pro-development. No longer can we rely on zoning through septic systems.

David: Update on Harbormaster's plan for connecting Owen Park to sewer and three marinas who need to provide pump-out. There is a business who will guide the businesses through the grant application process in order to comply with the town's regulations. We still need a connection to the sewer for the pump-out at Owen Park.

Next meeting: Feb. 5, 2020