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MEETING OF THE ORLEANS  
BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 15, 2023

The Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners held a hybrid meeting on Wednesday March 15, 2023 to conduct regular business.

Those present were Alan McClennen, Richard Hartmann, John Meyer, and Mark Berson of the Board; Susan Brown and Todd Bunzick of the Water Department; Kevin Galligan of the Select Board and Wastewater Management Advisory Committee; Tom Parece from AECOM; Lynn Bruneau, liaison from the Finance Committee; and Edwin Mcauliffe from Veolia.

Alan McClennen called the Board of Water/Sewer Commissioners Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

**On a motion by Mark Berson and seconded by John Meyer, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 15, 2023. The vote by the board was 4-0-0 with John Meyer, Mark Berson, Richard Hartmann, and Alan McClennen all voting aye by roll call.**

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

BOWSC UPDATED CONTACT LIST

Sue will update and redistribute with additional changes.

WTP LAGOON REPLACEMENT PROJECT

We are waiting for crush testing to come in, the concrete walls have been poured. Some items are backordered, there may be an extension on this contract. The depth of the excavation has been deeper than expected due to invert issues. The contractors are making steady headway, most of the concrete company has packed up and gone. There will need to be more pours down the road.

MADEP SANITARY SURVEY, APRIL 13, 2023

MADEP will be coming out to do a sanitary survey of our system. The survey is usually every 3 years, so it was expected.

STAFF TRAINING

Additional staff training is being done per DLS standards, which is primarily PPE and equipment training through MIIA. DigSafe training and training on the use of our shoring has been completed and there will be additional training on the use of our existing shielding mid-April.

### DROUGHT STATUS

The last time we looked at the drought status, we were below the trigger line and we are now above the line, which is trending up. It will not take much to go back below the gray line. Restrictions need to be determined to send out with the next billing regarding the drought status. Sue proposed voluntary restrictions to start instead of mandatory restrictions. Voluntary restrictions would not include private wells, however mandatory restrictions would.

**A motion was made by John Meyer, seconded by Richard Hartmann to send the notice regarding voluntary restrictions with the next billing. The vote by the Board was 4-0-0 with John Meyer, Richard Hartmann, Mark Berson, and Alan McClennen all voting aye by roll call.**

### NEW BUSINESS

#### COMMITMENTS/ABATEMENTS/REFUNDS

**A motion was made by John Meyer, seconded by Mark Berson to commit for the month of February, 2023 a total of \$4,429.35. The vote by the Board was 4-0-0 with John Meyer, Richard Hartmann, Mark Berson, and Alan McClennen all voting aye by roll call.**

#### REVENUES UPDATE

Not added to the report were amounts that are going to the special town meeting were for solenoid valves and additional money for chemicals and tanks, which will make a negative impact on the report, but the same picture. Total income is not anticipated to be less than last year, but a breakeven. Sue questioned if there should be a small rate increase such as 2-2.5%. Orleans has a 4-tier system and Sue believes a 3-tier may be more suitable, Sue will play with the different tiers to expand them where needed to see what the outcome would be. Richard believes that a small increase and adjusting the tiers is a great idea, while encouraging conservation.

Mark asked if there could be a permit fee on irrigation. There is currently no permitting and we do not have a number of irrigation systems in the area. Mark believes there will be more and more irrigation, however, Sue states there is less irrigation on town water, but more on private wells. Implementation of a fee would not benefit the water department, but the health department, as the health department manages the wells at this time. Alan stated that this needs to be watched and believes the increase would be a great idea.

## OLD BUSINESS

### RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE WATERSHED - MARK BERSON

The relationship between us and the energy and climate committee has been good. There have been dialogues and progress, and Alan has answered some questions they have had. They have provided us with some documentation and it is moving forward. Sue has a list of items to supply the energy and climate committee.

## SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT

### DRAIN LAYER, ROBERT B OUR

**Motion to approve the application by Robert B. Our, by John Meyer, seconded by Mark Berson. Vote by the Board 4-0-0 with John Meyer, Richard Hartmann, Mark Berson, and Alan McClennen all voting aye by roll call.**

### DRAIN LAYER, LAWRENCE LYNCH

**Motion to approve the application by Lawrence Lynch, by Mark Berson, seconded by John Meyer. Vote by the Board 4-0-0 with John Meyer, Richard Hartmann, Mark Berson, and Alan McClennen all voting aye by roll call.**

### VEOLIA - FOG UPDATE

We are currently at a standstill as we wait for updates to the Sewer Use Rules and Regulations (SURR). Richard believes the next action item will be to have a comprehensive review of the SURR. Some adjustments have been made for the FOG program and we are working on scheduling a time in May to review the program with the food service establishments (FSEs) and haulers. A Robert B Our employee, Ed Miles, will do our presentation as he is highly knowledgeable and does frequent presentations across the country.

### SEPTAGE RECEIVING PROGRAM UPDATE

Last Monday we began our soft start septage receiving with reserved slots. We did 116,000 gallons, 31 trucks. The goal would be to bring in 40,000 gallons per day, which may be a large ask. The thickening process started up this Monday, which has gone great. The next step would be to start seeding next Monday. Robert B Our has been contacted to see if we can start seeding at the end of the week instead of early next week. We've received a mix of positive and negative feedback from haulers as this is a different system for them to learn. Overall the process is going well and the equipment is working as it should. Reservations are currently being made via phone calls however we are planning on moving towards capacity reservations, not time reservations. Knowing what is coming in will help us build the system. We are hoping to do a shared

spreadsheet which will let haulers enter their capacity and when we hit a limit it will lock the day. However, we need buy-in from the haulers to be able to do this.

#### TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE - ALAN MCCLENNEN

Alan states everything is working. We are going through the punch List items with AECOM and DOC and they are being addressed.

#### MEETING HOUSE POND STATUS REPORT

Tom Parece distributed the Meetinghouse Pond bidding schedule as well as the Phase 3 study area map. Word is on the street about the Meetinghouse Pond project and there are many interested contractors so far. The bid opening will be on April 19th.

There will be a black and white version of the Phase 3 study area that will go in the warrant for town meeting. We anticipate the Wastewater Advisory Committee will come up with a reduced area in the coming months.

#### WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Kevin states it is important that people look at the map that will be included in the warrant that it is the study area, which is just the area being looked at. It's important to gather more information and then hone in on smaller areas with all information. The reason for Phase 3 to be a focus on this area is because there was work done on Pilgrim and Crystal Lake alerted the town that if they don't sewer in a reasonable amount of time then the lakes may require other remedial action.

#### WASTEWATER PHASE 1 SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION REVIEW AND VOTE

A letter dated February 17, 2023 from Robert B Our stated that the work for contract documents is substantially complete. AECOM has also told us that Robert B Our is at the stage of substantial completion.

**On a motion to issue substantial completion to Robert B. Our Co. Inc., by John Meyer, seconded by Mark Berson. Vote by the Board 4-0-0 with John Meyer, Richard Hartmann, Mark Berson, and Alan McClennen all voting aye by roll call.**

Richard asked the Board of Health if any feedback has been received from the letters that went out. The post office was overwhelmed with the amount of certified letters that had been sent. They stated they have never had that many certified letters go out and they may still be some in the process of sending. Condo owners don't understand why they have received the letter, which the health department explained all property owners were sent one. Richard requested Reggie come in and talk to us about how things are going at the next meeting, seeing as it will be about a month from when the letters have been sent.

There are 17 properties that have an alternate connection schedule due to a condition of their property. 18 West Road in 2004 were told they have to connect within 24 months so they will have an additional year to connect. Barnstable County has the Aquifund loan

program which varies 0-4% interest loans based on income level for sewer connections. We should push this to the community as much as we can. The order letters did go out with a copy of the sewer connection process. Any other correspondence that goes out should include the Aquifund.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**On a motion by John Meyer, seconded by Richard Hartmann the board voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:47pm. The vote by the Board was 4-0-0 with Mark Berson, John Meyer, Richard Hartmann, and Alan McClennen all voting aye by roll call.**

#### LIST OF DOCUMENTS USED

1. Draft Minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting
2. Town of Orleans, BOWSC Updated Contact List
3. USGS Well BMW22 Depth to Groundwater
4. Town of Orleans Water Department, Summer Restrictions
5. Town of Orleans Water Department Revenue Updates Report
6. Town of Orleans Water Department Commitments, February, 2023
7. Application for Drain Layer's License from Lawrence-Lynch Corp.
8. Application for Drain Layer's License from Robert B. Our Co. Inc.
9. AECOM Meetinghouse Pond Area Collection System and Pumping Station Bidding Phase Schedule
10. AECOM Phase 3 Lakes and Ponds Sewer Study Area

Submitted by: Marinna Raucci, Veolia