

MEETING OF THE ORLEANS
BOARD OF WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS
MAY 17, 2023

The Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners held a hybrid meeting on Wednesday May 17, 2023 to conduct regular business.

Those present were Mark Berson and Robert Rich of the Board; Len Short and Kevin Mahoney Associate Members of the Board; Todd Bunzick of the Water Department; Tom Daley, Director of Public Works and Natural Resources; Tom Parece and Tim Harrison from AECOM; Lynn Bruneau, liaison from the Finance Committee; and Edwin Mcauliffe from Veolia. Mark Berson is acting Chair at this meeting, in Alan McClennen's absence. Len Short and Kevin Mahoney will act as voting members of the board.

Mark Berson called the Board of Water/Sewer Commissioners Meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

MINUTES

On a motion by Robert Rich and seconded by Kevin Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 19, 2023. The vote by the board was 3-0-0 with Robert Rich, Kevin Mahoney, and Mark Berson all voting aye by roll call.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

WTP LAGOON REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The old sand filters were demolished last week, they have begun working on the second lagoon, and the rock trap being delivered today. We expect completion of this project by the end of the month if not sooner.

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE

The flushing program has been completed and annual pump maintenance with review of all wells starts on Monday. Following on Friday, will be pump meter calibrations.

MADEP SANITARY SURVEY, APRIL 13, 2023

We are in the top 97% that meet criteria.

DROUGHT STATUS

We are about 4 tenths of an inch above the trigger. It's been dry lately and we need more rain. We expect a drought at some time this year.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITMENTS/ABATEMENTS/REFUNDS

A motion was made by Robert Rich, seconded by Kevin Mahoney to commit for the month of April, 2023 a total of \$430,247.86. The vote by the Board was 3-0-0 with Mark Berson, Kevin Mahoney and Robert Rich all voting aye by roll call.

A motion was made by Robert Rich seconded by Kevin Mahoney to commit for the month of April, 2023 a total of \$34,315.90. The vote by the Board was 3-0-0 with Mark Berson, Kevin Mahoney and Robert Rich all voting aye by roll call.

OLD BUSINESS

RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE WATERSHED - MARK BERSON

Per Mark Berson, we should bring this to the new town manager to see where in the town government this item will fit. In other words, someone on staff needs to begin the process of assessing where this should go and to have it approved.

Tom Daley recommends the appropriate next step would be to invite Ron Collins to the next meeting to review this item.

SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT

NON-FLUSHABLE WIPES - MARK BERSON

Mark Berson prepared a draft of the statute after a tour and discussion at the plant. Wipes are deadly to the sewer system and the word "flushable" is deceptive. Consumers do not know by looking at the shelf what is biodegradable or not. MGL C93A is a civil statute and Mark requests that we ask the Select Board to ask a representative to introduce this statute for consideration.

Edwin McAuliffe gave a further explanation of this matter and how it affects the wastewater infrastructure and expresses gratitude to Mark for taking action on this matter.

Tom Daley asks that we have Mike Ford, Town Counsel, review this before moving forward to the Select Board. Robert Rich asks that we wait to have a full committee vote.

DRAIN LAYER, REIS EXCAVATING

Motion to approve the application for Reis Excavating, by Robert Rich, seconded by John Meyer. Vote by the Board 4-0-0 with Mark Berson, Kevin Mahoney, Len Short, and Robert Rich all voting aye by roll call.

VEOLIA UPDATE

Richard Elliott, the newest Orleans operator, who was unlicensed upon hire has sat for the Grade 4 Board Exam and passed. This is known to be a hard test to pass and this is quite an accomplishment.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was held May 4th and was excellent, other than the weather. We had fantastic speakers including the Northeast President, Kendra Morris, and as stated previously, Veolia is very grateful to have the opportunity to be part of this project that has been worked on for over 20 years. Tom Daley expressed another thank you to Kevin Galligan, Ed, and Marinna for their work pulling together the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Through working on an amendment to our contract, town passthrough accounts have been set up. By doing this we are able to reduce costs of purchases, specifically the cost of purchasing Micro C by 20%.

Septage receiving is going well, it seems that we go into the weekend and back into the beginning of the week slowly, but we ramp up throughout the week to make up for it. A reduction in fee would temporarily help to move the flow from other locations, like Yarmouth, to us. Discount days may be an idea to vote on in the future as going into the weekend there is sometimes the "lack of food". Mark Berson asked if there's a designated day we could think of being designated discount days, which Ed believes Thursday or Friday would be beneficial, but not every week. This discount would give us a competitive advantage to keep the system running until the collections system is fully online.

There is much interest in the facility from neighboring communities. The Town of Dennis as well as Barnstable County Public Works Association have both been astounded with the facility. They have had great questions and we have been able to provide them with a wealth of information.

BID RESULTS - TOM DALEY

The estimate to hit for the Meetinghouse Pond Phase 2 Sewer Collection, was 25,561,000. The final bidder came in about 5 million below the budget, which was C.C. Construction. The second lowest bidder was Robert B. Our, who came in at around 23 million. The other bidders came in above budget. The replacement of the water services came in significantly lower, we budgeted 500,000 and it came in at 315,000. The water main work was budgeted at 575,000 and came in at 288,000. The stormwater improvements were budgeted at 500,000 and came in at 216,500+/- . Notice of intent to award has been sent out to C.C. Construction. A contract to sign will be composed next.

Lynn Bruneau mentioned that Veolia will be holding a finance committee review on Monday to review monthly operating reports.

Ed mentioned that this is Tom Parece's last BOWSC meeting, with AECOM. Tom has been working with the Town for 8 years and is one of the most top quality consultants we have worked with.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Len Short seconded by Kevin Mahoney the board voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:43pm. The vote by the Board was 4-0-0 with Mark Berson, Kevin Mahoney, Len Short, and Robert Rich all voting aye by roll call.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS USED

1. Draft Minutes of the April 19, 2023 meeting
2. MADEP Drinking Water Award Acceptance Photo
3. WTP Lagoon Replacement Project Photos
4. MADEP Sanitary Survey Report, May 12, 2023
5. USGS Well BMW22 Depth to Groundwater
6. Town of Orleans Water Department Commitments, April, 2023
7. Town of Orleans Sewer Department Commitments, April, 2023
8. Town of Orleans Energy and Climate Action Committee Update
9. Town of Orleans Energy and Climate Action Committee Summary
10. Request for Prohibition of the sale of Non-Flushable Wipes within the Commonwealth
11. Application for Drain Layer's License from Reis Excavating
12. Town of Orleans Sewer Department, April 2023 Monthly Operating Report

Submitted by: Marinna Raucci, Veolia