

**TOWN OF JAMESTOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
for
TOWN, WATER AND SEWER MATTERS**

Monday, April 21, 2008

A public workshop of the Jamestown Town Council sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners was called to order at the Jamestown Town Hall, Council Chamber, 93 Narragansett Avenue at 6:07 PM by Commission President Julio DiGiando.

The following members were present

Vice-President, Michael White
Robert W. Sutton, Jr.

Also present were:

Bruce Keiser, Town Administrator
Steven J. Goslee, Public Works Director
Wyatt A. Brochu, Esq., Town Solicitor
Lisa Bryer, Town Planner
Denise Jennings, Water and Sewer Clerk

Absent:

William Kelly, Commissioner
Barbara A. Szepatowski, Commissioner

Commission President DiGiando reported that this workshop was called to review the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Water Commissioners.

Commission President DiGiando reported that the Council will not be discussing the safety concern on the Wood Pile Pier as scheduled under Town Business on the regular meeting agenda, as William Munger will not be able to attend this evenings meeting and has requested that this item be continued to the next regular Town Council meeting on 04/28/08.

Commission President DiGiando asked the Public Works Director to proceed with his presentation on his suggested amendments to the rules and regulations.

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically page 2, entitled Definitions, subsection (b), which currently reads as follows:

- (b) Each unit physically separated from other units within a building or structure and having separate washroom, bathroom and/or kitchen facilities;

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to change the word *kitchen* to *cooking facilities* to clarify this section. Following brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission that both the rules and regulation and the zoning regulations must be inline with each other. The Solicitor stated that he would look into this.

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically pages 4 and 5, entitled General Rules, subsections 2, 3 and 9, which currently read as follows:

2.....Automatic check valves shall be installed on the service at the building entrance. Hot water boilers and storage pressure tanks shall be provided with a temperature, vacuum, and pressure relief valves which customers shall keep in good operating condition at all times. Lever type valves are recommended.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to delete the words *entrance* and *Hot*. Mr. Goslee further stated that he would like to delete the word *recommended* and replace it with *required*.

3. Authorized employees of the Commission shall have reasonable access to customers' premises for the purpose of reading, testing or repairing meters; inspecting plumbing connections, fixtures or pipes,.....

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to add the words *inspecting for illicit connections* following *fixtures or pipes*.

9. No pipe or fixture connected with the mains of the Commission may be connected with pipes or fixtures supplied with water from any other source. Storage or mixing tanks subject to contamination, swimming pool re-circulating systems, private wells and reclaiming water systems, etc. are considered for the purpose of this regulation as other sources. Such cross connections are in violation of Rhode Island State Health Department regulations.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to add the new RI Department of Health Backflow regulations to subsection 9.

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically page 5, entitled General Rules and stated that he would like to add a subsection 13 to include language regarding grease trap requirements and would also like to add subsection 14 to read as follows:

14. *The owner is responsible for the maintenance of the sewer service from the house to the main including the tap.*

Town Administrator Keiser referred to the regulations specifically page 9, entitled Urban Water District-subsection II, (2) (i), which currently read as follows:

2. Will not result in an increase in annual consumption of water that would otherwise result if:

(i) The applicant dedicated the use of the premises to single or two family use as allowed by the Zoning Ordinance, consuming no more water than the average single or two family use; the consumption of an average single or two family use being the quotient derived by dividing the total consumption for all such uses by the total number of such uses connected to the water supply within the Town, averaged over a 3 year period.

Administrator Keiser suggested that language be added to define commercial property vs. residential property. Administrator Keiser reported that he had discussed this change with the Public Works Director and that the Director suggested that we hold off on this change until the new the Water Treatment Facility is complete and up and running.

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically page 10, entitled Rural Water District-section 14B, subsection (a) (4), which currently read as follows:

4. Is necessary because the land will not produce a sufficient

quantity of potable water by drilling private wells.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to add the following language:

- *The minimum well depth shall be 300'.*

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically pages 11 and 12 entitled Conservation-section 15A, subsection 2, 3 and 4, which currently read as follows:

2. No customer shall use water furnished by the municipal water system for lawn irrigation, house washing, boat washing, or residential car washing from June 1st through October 31st of each year; nor at any time between October 31st and May 31st when the height of the North Reservoir is more than one foot below the top of the spillway and after publication in the manner set forth in this subsection 3. When the height of the North Reservoir is from one foot to three feet below the top of the spillway and after publication of said information in a daily or weekly newspaper.....

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to change the following:

- June 1st to *June 30th*
- October 31st to *October 1st*
- one foot below the top of the spillway to *two feet* below the top of the spillway
- three feet below the top of the spillway to *four feet* below the top of the spillway

3. When the height of the North Reservoir is from three feet to four feet below the top of the spillway and after publication as described in subsection 2, above, no customer shall use water furnished by the municipal water system for any outdoor use.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to change the following:

- three feet to *four feet*
- four feet to *five feet*

4. When the height of the North Reservoir is from four feet to five feet below the top of the spillway and after publication as described in subsection 2, above, no commercial customer shall wash any vehicle using water furnished by the municipal water system.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to change the following:

- four feet to *five feet*
- five feet to *six feet*

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically page 13 entitled Conservation-section 15A, subsection 7 (a) and (b), which currently read as follows:

a.) The height of North Reservoir is no more than six (6) inches below the top of the spillway.

b.) The height of North Reservoir is no more than twenty-four (24) inches below the top of the spillway and the date falls between the first Tuesday after Labor Day and until October 31st.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to change the following:

- six (6)inches to *twelve (12) inches*

- twenty-four (24) to *thirty-six (36) inches*

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically page 14 entitled Conservation-section 15B, subsection 3 (b), which currently read as follows:

Within ten (10) years of the date May 17, 1999, all clothes washers in all improved real property connected to the municipal water system shall meet or exceed the water efficiency standards established and published by the board the from time to time.

Mr. Goslee and Administrator Keiser suggested extending the deadline for water efficient clothes washers, which is currently May 17, 2009.

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically page 17 entitled Meters-section 34 and 36, which currently read as follows:

34. Submetering will be permitted only with the approval of the Commission.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to change this section to read as follows:

- *no submetering will be permitted*

36. For the installation of seasonal meters, upon notification, between April 15th and May 31st, a charge of \$25.00 will be made. For installing a seasonal meter before or after said dates, upon notification, a charge of \$35.00 will be made. For removing, testing and storing of seasonal meters, upon notification, between September 15th and October 31st, a charge of \$25.00 will be made. For removing, testing and storing of seasonal meters, upon notification, before or after said dates, a charge of \$35.00 will be made. Attention is called to the Rules pertaining to disconnecting meters. Any repairs required to rehabilitate a seasonal meter must be borne by the customer.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to change the rates to the following:

- For the installation of seasonal meters, upon notification, between April 15th and May 31st, a charge of *\$25.00 to \$50.00*
- For installing a seasonal meter before or after said dates, upon notification, a charge of *\$35.00 to \$75.00*
- For removing, testing and storing of seasonal meters, upon notification, between September 15th and October 31st, a charge of *\$25.00 to \$50.00*
- For removing, testing and storing of seasonal meters, upon notification, before or after said dates, a charge of *\$35.00 to \$75.00*

The Public Works Director referred to the regulations specifically page 18 entitled Meters-section 46 which currently read as follows:

46. Approved remote meter reading devices, when requested by a customer for his convenience, will be installed by the Commission at the customer's expense. Remote reading devices installed for the Commission's convenience will be installed at the expense of the Commission.

Mr. Goslee stated that he would like to delete section 46 as it is no longer an issue.

Commissioner Sutton suggested that a preamble be created and added to the Rules and Regulations stating that water is very limited.

The Public Works Director stated that he recalls that there is already a preamble and that he will research his records and report back at the next water and sewer meeting.

Commission President DiGiando referred to the regulations specifically page 16 entitled Meters-section 41 which currently read as follows:

41. Swimming pools or other facilities which might require considerable quantities of water may be required to be separately metered and to have separate services. Customers are not permitted to fill pools with water from hydrants.

Commission President DiGiando stated that if water is available, we should sell it customers to fill their pools. Mr. Goslee expressed his concerns regarding cross contamination.

Brief discussion ensued regard the marina's water usage and use of tanker truck.

Following brief discussion on the Public Works Director's amendments, it was the consensus of the Commission to continue this matter to the next Water and Sewer meeting on 05/19/08.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further workshop business before the Commission, the meeting concluded at 7:25 PM.

Attest:

Denise Jennings
Water and Sewer Clerk

xc: Commission Members (5)
Town Administrator
Town Solicitor
Public Works Director
Town Clerk