

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

Monday, June 21, 2004

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners was called to order at the Jamestown Philomenian Library, Conference Room, 26 North Road at 7:02 PM by Commission President Kenneth G. Littman.

The following members were present:

David Long, Vice-President  
Julio DiGiando  
Claire W. Ferguson  
Guy Settipane

Also present were:

Maryanne Crawford, CPA, Town Administrator  
Steven J. Goslee, Public Works Director  
Denise Jennings, Water and Sewer Clerk

Absent:

J. William W. Harsch, Esq., Town Solicitor

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

1) Presentation by Dr. William R. Gordon, Jr. Dept. of Community Planning, URI re: Proposed Memorandum of Cooperation with the Town of Jamestown (continued from 05/17/04)  
Commission Consensus: At the request of Dr. Gordon, to continue this matter to the Water and Sewer meeting on 09/20/04.

2) Presentation by Christopher Yannoni from Fay, Spofford and Thorndike re: Report on Reverse Osmosis Pilot Study (See report dated 06/21/04 entitled "Proposed Water System Improvements")  
Christopher C. Yannoni, PE, Donald Q. Bunker, Jr., PE and Orren D. Schnieder, PE were present from Fay, Spofford and Thorndike.

Mr. Yannoni gave a presentation as follows:

- Background on the water supply requirements
- Results of the Reverse Osmosis Pilot Testing at Well JR-5
- Upgrades to the Water Treatment Plant and the costs associated with the project.

Discussion ensued. The Commission asked for clarification on several items as presented by Fay, Spofford and Thorndike.

Commission consensus: To ask the Public Works Director to provide a copy of the power point presentation by Fay, Spofford and Thorndike and to continue this matter to the next Water and Sewer

meeting on 07/19/04.

Commission consensus: To discuss item #1 under Town Business.

## **TOWN BUSINESS:**

- 1) Presentation by Lori Gibson, Supervising Wildlife Biologist, RIDEM re: **Controlled Deer Hunt**  
a) Letter of support from the Jamestown Garden Club

Lori Gibson, Supervising Wildlife Biologist and Michael Lapisky, Acting Chief of RIDEM were present.

Michael Lapisky distributed information to the Council and summarized the project undertaken by RIDEM to investigate the deer population in Jamestown and stated that the RIDEM's purpose is to provide the Town with information and options to control the situation.

Lori Gibson gave a short presentation on the deer population in Jamestown as follows:

- Described the project undertaken by RIDEM to investigate the deer population.
- Outlined the results of the project, including a helicopter study that surveyed the deer population on Beavertail by using infrared technology.
- Reported that the deer population at Beavertail is above the island wide level, which is currently at 50 deer per square mile. The island wide level is currently at 40 deer per square mile.
- Described the negative effects on overabundance as follows:
  - Damage to ornamental shrubs
  - Loss of forest regeneration
  - Auto strikes
  - Ticks and Lyme Disease
- Described deer management options and the responsibility of RIDEM as follows:
  - There is a State mandate to manage the population
  - It is irresponsible to allow population to increase
  - Need to advise homeowners to use barriers
  - Need to publicize a list of less preferred plants
  - Need to increase the harvest of antler less deer
- Reported on methods to control the deer population as follows:
  - Contraception-which is not commercially available, is very expensive and has to be repeated after a few years.
  - Sharpshooters-which is expensive
  - Controlled deer hunt-with the use of those hunters trained and certified in Archery

Ms. Gibson distributed additional information to the Council. Discussion ensued. The Council asked for clarification on a few items as presented by Ms. Gibson and Mr. Lapisky.

David Martin of the Jamestown Humane Society expressed his concerns regarding a controlled deer hunt in Jamestown.

Pat Bolger of the Jamestown Conservation Commission, reported that the Commission has had the opportunity to speak to representatives from Block Island and Prudence Island regarding this issue.

Mr. Bolger further reported that the Conservation Commission is also working with RIDEM. Mr. Bolger recommended that the Council act prudently on this matter.

Linda DiMauro of the Jamestown Humane Society and the mother of a small child expressed her concerns regarding a controlled deer hunt, specifically with a bow and arrow and its safety.

Arnold Sisson a hunter, stated that he trains hunters in bow hunting and that he assists RIDEM with their controlled deer hunts. Further discussion ensued.

Commission Consensus: To continue discussion on this matter to the 06/28/04 Town Council meeting.

Councilor Long suggested that in the future, only one presentation be schedule per a meeting. The Council agreed.

### **READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1) 05/17/04 (regular meeting)

Commissioner Settipane referred to Page 4 of 5 (last paragraph) on the discussion pertaining to the Sewer Budget fy 2004/2205 and stated that the minutes did not reflect his concerns regarding the sewer rate structure as presented. Following short discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to ask the Clerk to review her notes and/or listen to the tape regarding this matter and to continue approval of the minutes to the next Water and Sewer meeting on 07/19/04.

### **REPORT OF TOWN OFFICIALS**

1) **Pumping Report:**

Mr. Goslee reported the following:

- Pumping was down for the month of May, compared to last year.
- Rainfall was down for the month of May and only half of what was expected.
- North Reservoir is @ capacity, through transfer pumping.
- South Pond was @ capacity, but is now dropping due to transfer pumping.
- Color level remains steady and appears to be at peak.

2) **Town project reports**

**Town Wells:**

Mr. Goslee reported the following:

- JR1 is back online.
- JR3 will go online soon and will run in sequence with JR1.
- JR5 is now offline. This well was used for the RO Pilot Test.

**North/South Pipeline:**

Mr. Goslee reported the following:

- The pipe portion of the project is complete and is operational. The contractor will return shortly to complete some minor landscaping work.
- The engineering drawings and specifications are complete.

**Aeration System:**

Mr. Goslee reported that the system is online and is operating well. Mr. Goslee stated that he expects the color level to begin to diminish this month.

**Treatment Plant:**

Mr. Goslee reported the following:

- The Town has completed its second quarter for the new testing protocols for disinfection byproducts.
- He expects results back in 30 days.
- He expects to see an increase in the levels this quarter and even more for the August tests.
- The test in August will be at the peak water temperature for the year and that the water temperature is an important factor in the level of the DBR formations.

Mr. Goslee further reported that Mark Edwards from US Filter is currently on site and has assisted the Town in piloting some new water chemistry configurations and some different primary coagulants and that the results are encouraging.

**Beavertail Road water line replacement:**

No action taken.

**Reverse Osmosis Pilot Study:**

Previously discussed.

**Distribution System:**

Mr. Goslee reported the following:

- The water crew is still installing seasonal meters and repairing old steel services that have been disturbed and in conflict with the sewer project.
- The water crew will begin hydrant repair and maintenance this month and also will install 8 new hydrants.

**Transfer Pumping:**

Mr. Goslee reported that the Town is currently transfer pumping a few days on and a few days off.

**Sewer Plant Rehabilitation:**

No action taken.

The Commission asked for clarification on a several items as reported by the Public Works Director.

**LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

1) Letter from William Munger re: **06/04 Water Bill** for 3 Ferry Wharf (Spinnaker’s) Commission President Littman stated that Mr. Munger is requesting a credit on sewer charges, due to a leak that was on his seasonal property that went unnoticed until the opening of the business on May 1 in the amount of \$378.24. Commissioner Ferguson asked the Town Administrator if anything had been forgiven in the past. The Town Administrator reported that she had spoken to the

the Solicitor regarding this matter and that he stated that the only way to determine how much water goes into the sewer is to put a meter on the sewer. The Administrator further reported that in the past, no charges have been forgiven and that enabling legislation allows for sewer charges to based on water usage.

Motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Settupane to deny the

request

of William Munger for a credit in the amount of \$378.24 on his 06/04 Water and Sewer Bill. So unanimously voted.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1) **Rate Study** by Bacon and Edge, P.C. (cont. from 05/17/04)

Short discussion ensued. The Town Administrator reported that she would like to have Bacon & Edge, update Schedule 3 to include new numbers for debt service, since the Town's refinancing. The Administrator further reported that the final figures from Fay, Spofford and Thorndike have been forwarded to Bacon and Edge. The Town Administrator stated that she would provide the updated information to the Commission for the next Water and Sewer meeting in July. Following clarification of a few items, it was the consensus of the Commission to continue this matter to the next Water and Sewer meeting on 07/19/04.

### NEW BUSINESS

1) **Toilet Retrofit Program**

Status report from the Town Administrator

The Town Administrator reported that as of this date, 496 customers are still not in compliance with the Retrofit Program, out 1435 customers. The Town Administrator recommended that the Commission continue this matter to the Water and Sewer meeting on 09/20/04 and stated that a status report on this program will be provided at said meeting. Commission Consensus: To continue this matter to the Water and Sewer meeting on 09/20/04.

2) Approval of contract with Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, LLC re: Engineering Services for **Pilot Study** in the amount of \$75,000

Mr. Goslee stated that the total project cost is \$100,000 and that a portion project in the amount of \$25,000 will be done in house. Short discussion ensued. Commissioner Settupane expressed his concern regarding the bidding process. Motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Ferguson to award the contract for Engineering Services for the Pilot Study to Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$75,000. Motion so voted, 4 in favor; Commissioner Settupane opposed.

3) Approval of contracts with Vollmer Associates, LLP  
**Sewer Pipeline Rehabilitation Project**, not to exceed \$34,000

Short discussion ensued. Commissioner Settupane expressed his concerns regarding the bidding process. The Public Works Director briefly explained the slip-lining process. Following clarification of a few items, motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner DiGiando to award the contract for the Sewer Pipeline Rehabilitation Project to Vollmer Associates, LLP in an amount not to exceed \$34,000. Motion so voted, 4 in favor; Commissioner Settupane opposed.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade**, not to exceed \$287,250

Short discussion ensued. Following clarification of a few items, motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner DiGiando to award the contract for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project to Vollmer Associates, LLP in an amount not to exceed \$287,250. Commissioner Settupane expressed his concerns regarding the bidding process. Motion so voted, 4 in favor; Commissioner Settupane opposed.

William Munger of 102 Cole Street briefly expressed his concerns regarding the issues pertaining to the Sewer Rehabilitation project.

### **BILLS AND PAYROLL**

Motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Ferguson to approve the Water Bills and Payroll. So unanimously voted.

Motion was made by Commissioner DiGiando, seconded by Commissioner Long to approve the amended Sewer Bills and Payroll, as submitted by the Town Administrator this evening. Commissioner Settiane asked for clarification regarding the amendment to the list. The Town Administrator stated that the wrong numbers were picked up, when entering invoice amounts pertaining to the Sewer Rehabilitation Project. Motion so unanimously voted.

The Town Administrator stated that she would provide a spreadsheet on expenses to date, for each vendor pertaining to the Sewer Rehabilitation Project for the next Water and Sewer meeting on 07/19/04.

### **TOWN BUSINESS**

- 1) Presentation by Lori Gibson, Supervising Wildlife Biologist, RIDEM re: Controlled Deer Hunt
  - a) Letter of support from the Jamestown Garden ClubPreviously discussed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Commission, motion was made by Commission President Littman, seconded by Commissioner Ferguson to adjourn the regular meeting at 10:50 PM. So unanimously voted.

Attest:

Denise Jennings  
Water and Sewer Clerk

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