

**Town of Freetown
Sewer Line Extension Committee**

Minutes of the Wednesday, March 6, 2024 Meeting
Held Hybrid, at the Police Station Community Room, and over Zoom

Present in Person: Deborah Pettey, Victoria Alfaro, Bob Parker, Mark Rosofsky.

Absent: None.

Call to Order: Victoria Alfaro called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Discussion and Update from Environmental Partners for the Assonet Sewer Extension Project

Andrew Grota and William Yan, from Environmental Partners (EP) were present. They gave an update on the Assonet Sewer Extension project. Mr. Grota explained that the existing conditions plan was completed for 23 Alexandra Drive for the proposed pump station at that location. Mr. Grota asked if there was a way to get the information for the requested water data. Mr. Parker explained that a lot of the cards have blank addresses and a lot of the information is non-existent. MassDOT would be needed to access any man holes that are state highway. The manholes were added later and the Town has no record of them. Ms. Pettey suggested that Chuck, Highway Surveyor, might be able to help. Mr. Rosofsky stated that he spoke with Chuck and that some manholes are cracked and would require them to be replaced when taking them off. It could cost \$700-1000 for each cover to be replaced. Mr. Grota inquired about the parcel survey, limits of the pump station not shown, easement for drainage, and if the Town would own that. Ms. Pettey stated yes, if taking the parcel. Mr. Grota explained the basin or swale may have to be extended to not interfere with the pump station.

Mr. Grota would be willing to reach out to Chuck to get the remaining manholes opened. He inquired if there was any feedback from the Board of Selectmen's meeting. Ms. Pettey mentioned that the goal is for option two, to leave the 8" size as is and increase the pump station. She recommended to get feedback from the Water & Sewer Commission. The overall construction would be cost effective and rather upsize than take the risk with the 6" slip line. Ms. Petty spoke with Jim Rezendes before the meeting and he felt that the slip line would be difficult to do and to then have to upsize it in the future.

Mr. Rosofsky contented that Steven Tripp join the Committee. Mr. Tripp has years of experience. Mr. Rosofsky had a question with how feeders are going to the pump station. Mr. Grota explained that the expansion involved extension of South Main Street to Four Corners and would leave extensions for side streets. The first phase would be a long trunk line from the Four Corners to pump station and the pump station would pump all flow to Fall River. The flow would be fed by gravity to Town Hall then pumped to High Street, to Ridge Hill is gravity. High Street to Four Corners is a combination of low-pressure sewer and from bridge to Four Corners would be gravity, leaving service connections along the way. Mr. Tripp asked about a gravity line from Narrows Road to Alexandra Drive to the pump station. Mr. Grota stated that was correct. Mr. Rosofsky asked if two lines would go under the highway. Mr. Grota explained that only the force main would go under the highway. Mr. Grota explained that they can leave a separate line capped and add it into the design. If it is not too costly, it would make sense to add the other line while the permit from MassDOT is active. Ms. Pettey agreed that it is a great idea to have the spare line and have the cost rolled into the project, it's already a significant cost. Mr. Grota agreed that it can be incorporated as part of the design and explained the scope. The pump station would be at the corner of Alexandra Drive and Ridge Hill Road. The intent would be to collect everything by gravity to that pump station and then pump it all the way down South Main Street into the Fall River and Freetown last manhole. The sewer shed would pick up everything on the stretch of South Main Street. First phase would be to run a trench, have the main in the street, leave the stubs going off the street to connect to side streets and the future phases connect those when funding becomes available. There are three phases. There were options of slip lining the 6" or using the existing 8" pipe. The pump station would be bigger with using the 8" pipe but there would be savings on the ultimate costs because the slip line of pipes would not be installed. Once a decision was made then they will proceed with the design work. A recommendation would be made to perform pipe cleaning and inspection before moving forward with reusing the 8" pipe because it has been 20 years. There are a number of high point manholes and then low point clean up manholes but no valves. The idea was probably to add them in the future. The Committee was in agreement to move forward with the option for the design.

EP prepared a revised amendment for supplemental design/survey services for Assonet Sewer Extension and Four Corners Intersection Improvements projects. Ms. Pettey indicated that the additional work at the Four

Corners Intersection was ongoing. Good to move forward and funding would come out of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Mr. Grota explained the overall schedule. A deliverable date for MassWorks was June 2024. Ms. Pettey explained that she would have to look back at it, it did not get started right away and all the money got pushed to this year. The project had to be completed by the end of 2026 because of the ARPA funding. Mr. Grota explained that it should be finished by 2025 and they are trying to adhere to those dates as best as possible.

Next step would be to coordinate with Fall River since the Committee knows what the flows are and present to Fall River any amendments. Mr. Grota would setup a meeting between Fall River and the Committee to discuss. Mr. Grota explained that if they were to exceed the threshold for flow, the agreement would have to be amended. If the existing sewer on the Fall River side needed to be upsized then they may want to share the cost of upgrading. Mr. Tripp stated that there was a small flow from marijuana facility. Mr. Yan explained that flows did come from an engineer but it is subjective since it is in the design phase. Mr. Rosofsky inquired about a "what if" scenario of no sewer flow contribution from the AmeriCann development on Campanelli Drive. Mr. Grota explained that there would be a lot of excess sewer capacity to take in flow with the 8" pipe. AmeriCann would have to be accounted for in operations of the pump station if AmeriCann would not be fully built but can accommodate the change later. The projected flows would be over the allotted amount in the municipal agreement. Mr. Yan stated that hopefully they have the capacity with pipe size and the wastewater treatment facility. There is a 10" pipe that runs from Stop and Shop by gravity to Fall River. Mr. Grota would update the basis design to reflect the option two and set up the meeting with Fall River.

Any other business to properly come before the Committee

The next meeting would be scheduled on April 10, 2024, at the Police Station Community Room and Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mark Rosofsky, seconded by Bob Parker, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

This is a True Record by me

Attest: _____
Nicole DeMoranville, Senior Clerk