

AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
November 12, 2015
Selectmen's Chambers, 5:30 p.m.
Town of Avon

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mr. Johansen.

AWPCA

Present: Eric Johansen
Tom Armstrong
Chris Roy

Absent: Terry Ryan

Guests: Eric Hess, F.R. Mahoney & Associates
Chris Nedwick, Regional Sales Manager, E/One

II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING – October 8, 2015

MOTION: Mr. Johansen made a motion for approval of the October 8, 2015 minutes. The motion, seconded by Mr. Roy, received unanimous approval.

III. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE – Mr. Gary Palmer, 20 Hurdle Fence, Avon introduced himself and noted he was in attendance to learn.

IV. NEW BUSINESS – None

V. OLD BUSINESS -

2015 – 6 Research on Low Pressure Sewer Systems

Mr. Baril introduced Mr. Hess from F.R. Mahoney & Associates, Inc. (FRMA) and Mr. Christopher Nedwick from Environment One (Eone) who were invited to the AWPCA meeting to provide an overview and presentation of low pressure sewer systems as there are several places that have been targeted for low pressure sewers such as the potential Paperchase / Hurdle Fence neighborhood. Mr. Hess provided a slide presentation which included technical specifics and the advantages of low pressure sewers as opposed to gravity sewers which are deep and prone to inflow and infiltration issues. Mr. Hess reviewed the service procedure to fix a grinder pump and noted there are anti-syphon check valves installed in every grinder pump. A 70-gallon storage tank (most common) can last up to 24 hours after an electrical outage, depending on usage. A portable generator can be used to pump the effluent when common power is lost. Discussion included the Ballast System which Eone pumps provides already mounted saving time and money for contractors. Mr. Hess reviewed what the grinder pumps can tolerate such as baby wipes but will not work properly if there is an excessive amount. Homeowners receive a homeowner's guide of "Do's and Don'ts" to ensure the system runs smoothly. Mr. Hess noted he's seen where the pump systems are sometimes owned by the municipality and sometimes owned by the homeowners. Some towns have a stand-by service agreement with FRMA to provide emergency repair/replacement as needed. Proper procedures for homeowners who leave for extended periods of time (i.e. homes that are closed up for the winter) were reviewed. Internal flushing connections are recommended so that the systems are cleared during the period of non-use. The pumps

system controls include a generator hook-up receptacle as standard. There is a check-valve in place to isolate each pump system keeping individual problems from adversely affecting the remaining connections.

Mr. Hess noted that there are some state and federally funded sewer projects that require connections by property owners. Mr. Nedwick followed up and noted that is dependent on local jurisdictions whereby some towns require connections by a certain date and the possibility of late connection fees (after the deadline) may apply.

Systems can be designed to operate on a small or large scale as the proper design component will be in place depending on the size. Mr. Nedwick noted that there are a large number of seasonal use systems. There are man-hole inserts and chemical injections to alleviate odors. Eone provides a 2-year warranty which includes on-site labor, shop labor and parts. This is not the standard for pump manufactures because most do not include on-site labor. A longer warranty is an option when the pump is initially purchased. The warranty is connected to the serial number, not to the purchaser. Ten year is the average mean time between service calls. Eone pumps are made and designed to be maintenance free. Typical, high service call performed on a holiday weekend could cost \$600, during the week, \$300. Eone charges \$150 service fee but does not charge travel fee. \$85/hour for on-site labor (weekend and holidays are time and a half or double time.)

Mr. Hess addressed the concern regarding retention and noted the first thing you will notice are odors at the discharge point which can be mitigated by inserting odor control and also place chemical feed to alleviate the corrosive wastewater. There are local municipalities the Town can contact to review their ordinances relating to low pressure sewer systems. Mr. Nedwick noted that most of Eone's business has been seen in septic abatement and most of installs happen when there's community with a water quality problem which needs to be addressed. As the company has evolved, new construction installs have increased. Mr. Hess commented that when FRMA sells a pump they perform a start-up inspection which includes taking pictures and a start-up inspection form is completed which is reviewed for appropriate background information whenever a service call is placed. Mr. Nedwick noted that there's a direct correlation between the quality of installation and the reliability of the pump system. Mr. Nedwick provided names of companies who have installed Eone grinder pumps. AWPCA members expressed appreciation for the informational presentation on low pressure sewer systems.

VI PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS – Mr. Armstrong mentioned the BMW application whereby, if approved, they will join the Town sewer collection system. Mr. Baril provided an update on the Avon Park North project and the sewer capacity relative to full or projected full buildout. Regarding downstream infrastructure issues, the Carpionato Group (Developer) is aware they are responsible for participating in improving the downstream issues on a pro-rata basis.

VII COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF – Mr. Baril reviewed the CIP requests for the Sewer Department such as funding for lateral extensions, Rt. 44 Pump Station improvements, Farmington Interceptor Replacement and I&I Rehabilitation.

VIII COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS – Mr. Roy inquired about the RFP for the potential sewer project for Paperchase / Hurdle Fence. Mr. Baril responded it is high on his list and will have a draft ready by next week. The RFP is based on revised gravity levels. Mr. Baril may put out two bids: one for gravity and separately as low pressure so we get true qualified numbers for each of those systems. Mr. Baril intends to compare mainline to lateral stub to the curb stop (to the valve) for both gravity and low pressure.

Mr. Palmer of 20 Hurdle Fence noted he does not have an opinion of the neighborhood but if you judge by the comments at the meeting (Public Information Meeting), there was a vocal minority. Mr.

Baril noted that, often times, the people who are most vocal are almost always the ones who are opposed and the ones who are pro are quiet.

Mr. Palmer believes there may have been an awful lot of people who are in favor who were not at the meeting. Mr. Palmer noted his septic system is fine but thinks it's a great idea for the neighborhood and it's something we should do.

IX OTHER BUSINESS – None

X ADJOURNMENT -

MOTION: Mr. Johansen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The motion, seconded by Mr. Roy, received unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Essex, Clerk