

## **NORTH SAGAMORE WATER DISTRICT**

### **MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 4, 2021**

The North Sagamore Water District Board of Water Commissioners held their meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 4:00 pm via tele-conference per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the open meeting law dated March 10, 2020 due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19). Chairperson Mark Bergeron called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Those who dialed in remotely at the start of the meeting were: Chairperson Mark Bergeron, Commissioner George Sala, Superintendent Matt Sawicki, Treasurer Maureen Fruci, Phillips Road-North Sandwich Community Association board members Andy McDonald, Roger Goulet, John Drew and Suzanne Parker.

#### **MEETING WITH PHILLIPS ROAD-NORTH SANDWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION IN REGARDS TO WATER MAIN UPGRADE ON PHILLIPS ROAD/SANDWICH**

John Drew from the Phillips Road-North Sandwich Community Association explained he was contacted by Superintendent Matt Sawicki regarding the replacement of the water main and paving of the entire length of Phillips Road. He said the association has some concerns about the project and is interested in getting some information about the work that will be done. He said the association had a study of the road done last year and was told it could be 10 years before the road would need major work.

Superintendent Sawicki explained that last fall the District had planned to replace the Phillips Road water main from Bourne to the Sandwich town line and the area in between the pillars. Due to Covid-19 and economic uncertainty, the project was postponed. The Board discussed the possibility of replacing the entire water main to the end. The existing 6" asbestos water main will be replaced with an 8" PVC line as well as all new services to each property line. The new main will be installed in the existing asphalt as close to one side of the road as possible. The existing line will remain in the road on one side, with the gas main on the other side of the road. The contractor will attempt to install all services under the pavement, however some services may need to be trenched. Mr. Drew asked why all of the services cannot be installed under the pavement. The Superintendent explained that the District cannot dictate how the contractor installs the services. Commissioner Sala introduced himself to the association and informed them he is the retired director of the Bourne DPW. He explained that the contractor would prefer to install the services under the pavement, however sometimes it's just not possible due to obstructions under the road. Mr. Drew said the association prefers the services be trenchless because a previous trench sunk and residents are complaining. He explained there are 6 drains on the private section of the road which they clean each year and there doesn't seem to be many obstructions under the pavement. Asked about the size of the trenches, Superintendent Sawicki said they would be approximately 3-5' wide and 4 ½' deep and the water line would be installed deeper than the gas line.

There was a discussion regarding the timeframe for the project. Superintendent Sawicki said it will probably begin in 2-3 years. It will be done in the off season beginning in the fall and completed the following spring. The association asked about potential costs to individual homeowners to connect to the water main. The Superintendent said there will be no cost to

the majority of homeowners. However, there are some homes toward the end of the road on a 2" line located farther off the road with lines that run through the dunes, that will have to be extended out to the road. These homeowners may incur some costs, however, the District will speak directly with them if that is the case. The District will also take care of all conservation permits. In addition, the current easement through the dunes will no longer be necessary because the 2" water line will be eliminated.

Mr. Drew said they will present this information to the association at their next meeting in the fall. He said he is concerned the road could be in worse condition in 2-3 years if they don't do anything. He said it might be better to have one long trench down the road rather than digging it up one section at a time. Superintendent Sawicki noted that 70-80% of the leaks in the District are on Phillips Road. He said that last week's meeting was canceled due to a leak there.

There was a discussion about using flow-able fill in the trenches. The Superintendent said it cannot be used around the pipes. Commissioner Sala said flow-able fill won't settle. He said one of the most important factors regarding trench settlement is compacting properly every 6-12". Superintendent Sawicki said there will be a full time inspector on the job site to insure everything is done to the District's specifications. There will also be a police detail.

The association asked if the power lines may be put underground. The Superintendent said he hasn't heard anything about that but Eversource would make that decision. Commissioner Sala said he doesn't think that will happen because not only does Eversource have lines, so do Verizon and Comcast.

Commissioner Sala asked Mr. Drew when the road survey was done. He said the association had Clover Paving do it last year. At that time, they were told it could be 5-10 years before the road would require any major work. Commissioner Sala asked if the paving company did a core check. Mr. Drew said they did. He said if the timing works out, this project could be good for the association. In a few years the road may possibly need some repairs especially if ongoing construction in the area continues with heavy trucks traveling on the road.

Suzanne Parker asked what the next steps will be in getting this project started. Superintendent Sawicki said at the Annual District Meeting this spring, District residents will vote on funds for the design and permitting for the project. The following year, residents will vote on funds to finalize the planning of the project. He said COVID-19 and the economy will definitely factor into how the project progresses. Mr. Drew said it would be helpful to have District representatives at their annual association meeting in the fall to answer questions for residents.

The Superintendent said he would be happy to attend. Commissioner Sala said everyone is welcome to attend the District's annual meeting this spring including homeowners who live on the portion of Phillips Road owned by the town of Sandwich. He said it's important to keep the lines of communication open between the association/residents and the District.

Ms. Parker said it's important that homeowners are getting accurate information. Mr. Drew said they will send information regarding the project to all residents of Phillips Road/Sandwich

including those who don't attend the meeting. Superintendent Sawicki said District personnel will go door to door to get the information to residents.

Commissioner Sala thanked the association for joining in on the meeting. Superintendent Sawicki said if anybody has any questions they can contact him via email.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Sala made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:38 pm. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion was accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Fruci,  
District Clerk