

Town of Ayer



**Board of Selectmen-Emergency Meeting
Re: Wastewater Treatment Plant Clarifier**

Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room

Ayer Massachusetts, 1432

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Gary J. Luca, Chairman	X	Carolyn McCreary, Member	X
James M. Fay, Vice Chairman	X	Pauline Conley, Member	A
Frank F. Maxant, Clerk	A	Robert Pontbriand, Town Administrator	X
Janet S. Lewis, Secretary	X		

9:00a.m. Open

Chairman Luca opened the Meeting.

Present for discussion: Supt. of Public Works-Dan Nason, Foreman of Wastewater Division-John Loomer.

Town Administrator Robert Pontbriand opened the discussion by advising the Board to Emergency Meeting called due to the serious nature of operational problems with the secondary Wastewater Treatment Plant Clarifier.

Supt. Nason updated the Board to Foreman John Loomer of the Ayer Wastewater Division alerting him to observing the wastewater filters continually in a backwash condition and blinded from what appeared to be solids washing out from the process with a turbid (murky) condition in the secondary clarifiers. Supt. Nason advising the board to immediately diverting flows to Devens in order to clean out tertiary filters and UV system to slow upset. Attempts to put the system back on line with decreased flow failed system still in turbid condition. Supt. Nason requested the Board's permission to contract with Robert Chervincky, PE of Interstate Water & Wastewater Specialists of Windham, NH to figure out problem and fix at a proposed cost of \$7,500.00 to bring the process back to normal. Supt. Nason advising to need to proceed as soon as possible to avoid Administrative Consent Order from MADEP/EPA. Supt. Nason advising to Mr. Chervincky being available immediately and to time sensitivity of issue. Selectman Fay moved the Board vote to authorize funding limit, to resolve problem at DPW WWTP Clarifier with Robert Chervincky, PE of Interstate Water & Wastewater Specialist of Windham, NH 2nd for discussion. Selectman Fay stating his concerns re funding authorization unknown (\$5K to 7,500) questioning if \$7,500 is appropriate to evaluate and fix the problem to resolve the issue. Supt. Nason advising to Mr. Chervincky advising to estimated budget of \$7,500.00 should be sufficient. John Loomer advised the Board to facility being in State compliance with DEP/EPA and Town presently sending what flows we can to Devens and DEP highly recommending Contacting Wastewater Consultant to fix problem. Selectman Fay amended his earlier motion to award contract to Interstate Water & Wastewater Specialists in the amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 and authorize the Chairman's signature, 2nd by Selectman McCreary, VOTE: 3-0 unanimous, so moved. Funding source from Wastewater Budget. Liability Insurance included.

Mr. Loomer advised Board to additional problem surfacing with final treatment process with blue vessels at rear of Treatment plant having clogged filters, backwash watered out; keep winding over piping, steel rotted, flow

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does not get to filter. Mr. Loomer advised to contacting company that produced vessels in Rockland, IL and advising Board to representative will be here on Thursday at no cost and one vessel presently off line and cannot take out of service. Estimated cost of repair around \$5K this also to come from Wastewater Budget different line item.

Supt. Nason reported an additional concern caught by Mr. Loomer on 9-12 re unreported additional water way off to the benefit on monetary side Town is selling more than pumping. Excessively high unrecorded flow of water. Supt. Nason looking a problem with meters/water billing software, purchasing new meters for t he entire Town which would check for leaks in individual homes, but at substantial cost,

Chairman Luca requesting discussion at hand is only regarding emergency other issues to be brought up at later date.

9:30a.m. Selectman Fay moved to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Selectman McCreary, VOTE: unanimous, so moved.

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