

SEWER COMMISSIONER'S ABATEMENT HEARINGS

October 11, 2005

7:05 P.M.

Acton Memorial Library Conference Room

Doug Halley spoke about the abatements that they have to act upon. They have received 11 applications. 9 of the homes were misidentified as not being bettered. After review by Town Counsel they were issued a betterment. The petitioners feel the cost of the hooking into sewers were too costly. Doug said septic systems are running \$25,000. The life span of the sewer is 50 years vs. 25 years of a home septic system. The benefits of sewers are environmental improvements and a benefit that they don't have to worry about breakouts. Title 5 will be issuing new regulations shortly. It was noted that Merriam Lane and Drummer Farms joined together to make it less expensive for hook ups.

1. **16 Silver Hill, Amit Bahn** - Mr. Bahn could not attend this evening and has asked for a continuation to October 17, 2005
2. **1 Assabet Crossing – Paul Haverstock** Mr. Haverstock outlined the reasons he did not want to connect as the fee is three times the cost of \$12,000. Excessive costs now and in the future, they have the best case scenario because of the soil conditions. Dore' asked if they would be precluded for asking to hookup. Don felt that they would have to pay the betterment. Walter asked if he had a proposal in case we denied his abatement. Lauren asked Doug about the financing of the Betterment. Doug noted that all have chosen the 30 year option. She asked about the issues with resale. Doug noted that with new regulations, if it fails under Title 5 they must hook up if sewer line is available to hook up to. Peter asked how often they pumped, they replied once per year.
3. **2 Assabet Crossing, Michael and Carolyn Saviello** – Mr. Saviello was asked to recap his argument because of his frontage on Independence and he felt that there was no stub and hook up for them. It would be costly for him and the Town. He noted that they have two leaching fields incase they needed to rest one and that there would be little reason for them to hook up to the Town sewer system. Dore' noted that they have frontage in the district. Peter asked about the Town's expense to hook up, Doug said we have had to put new connections as an oversight, and it is our obligation.
4. **2 Mallet Drive – Yin Yin & Chiu-Shia** – Greta Shia daughter spoke on behalf of her parents. They have lived there for 15 years. They feel it is an undue financial burden placed upon them. In 1998 they opted out of the district and signed the petition as asked by the Town. The Town

Manager and Health Director said that they would put a stub on their property edge on Adams Street, but they will need to continue to their house. They asked the town to build out on Maillet Drive and rebate monies put into their private septic tank. Or they would undertake the connection to Adams Street and the Town to rebate the fees to install an additional 130 feet to Adams Street and rebate of septic expenses since 1998. Dore' was concerned about the possibility of lot 1 then getting a free connection. Walter noted that he was concerned with the legal requirements placed on the Commissioners. Peter said he is bound by tight restrictions on what we can or cannot do. Peter asked about the application and the reason the \$3,000 figure was determined...

5. **12 Assabet Crossing – Paul Gaboury** presented an overview of Assabet Crossing situation. He outlined the reasons they want to be excluded. He noted that they have ideal soil conditions and felt that the time line was the same on as outlined by the Shia's. He spoke about the pumps needed to get to Independence. The cost to connect would be very high. The cost to the neighborhood would be much higher than another location. Paul noted that the betterment must be paid at closing. He also said that he would not sign up for the installation unless the Town under Title 5 would force a hook up and that would be even higher because of the piece meal hook ups as individuals systems fail. Dore' noted Grace's situation and that it could bankrupt the Sewer District if abatements were granted. Lauren said that it would be an investment in the property. Dore' asked about the hammer head lots. Peter asked that with the information now that Title 5 requires hookup at failure would the neighborhood approach be looked at.
6. **12 Assabet Crossing – Paul Gaboury** gave an overview of his argument for not hooking up. He spoke about the location for piping and the variances involved in hooking up to Parker Street. He went over his spread sheet for costs or \$40,000 dollars for his hookup. He could re-mortgage it or take a line of credit. He will be getting more information from Doug about the requirements of Title 5 to hookup.
7. **4 Assabet Crossing – James and Roberta King** – It's expensive, it's a burden for them financially and they don't feel they should be required to hookup.
8. **6 Assabet Crossing – Michael and Elizabeth Perry** – Thanked her neighborhood for their presentations. She has a system that is working she takes care of it and it should last for a long time. Because the lot is problem some for connecting, long driveway and lot elevation. She requests an abatement for her property.

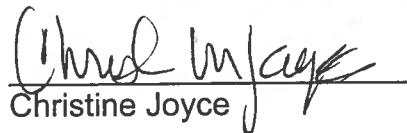
9. **8 Assabet Crossing – Feng Zhang and Lena Li** – Mr. Zhang spoke about his current private system and the reasons he would not want to be required to hookup. He asked for an exemption to the Betterments.

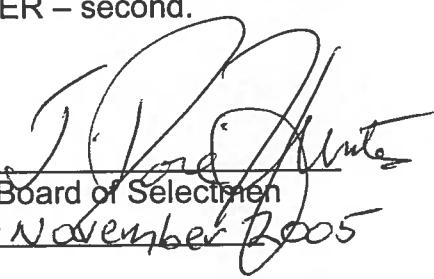
10. **10 Assabet Crossing – Jeremy and Maria Greene** spoke about the reasons for an abatement of the betterment. The cost of \$42,000 for individual hook up is too high. He feels that \$42,000 vs. \$4,000 installation costs are too high. He also noted the soil conditions and number of pumps needed to install. The costs will have a significant impact on his family. He asked for abatement of the Betterments. Peter asked Doug about any monies for loaning for sewer connections. The money they currently have is \$200,000. They would require a lower interest rate.

11. **14 Assabet Crossing – Ian Hirst** – Mr. Hirst outlined his reasons for asking for an abatement of the betterment. His situation is not as bad, but he would not want the pump to fail and he noted his landscaping is now mature.

12. **26 School Street – Antonio DaCosta** – This is a different situation of an assessment for 2 instead 1 betterments. The Assessor's did an inspection and they assumed it was a 2 Family. Doug has verified it is a single family home.

WALTER FOSTER – Moved to adjourn DORE' HUNTER – second.
UNANIMOUS VOTE – Meeting adjourned at 9:20.


Christine Joyce


Dore' Hunter
Clerk, Board of Selectmen
14 November 2005
Date

October 11, 2005

TO: Sewer Commissioners

FROM: Peter Ashton, Chairman

**SUBJECT: SPECIAL SEWER COMMISSIONER'S MEETING,
(BETTERMENT ABATEMENT HEARINGS)**

ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

(ROOM LOCATED TO THE LEFT WHEN ENTERING THE BUILDING)

7:05 P.M.

I CITIZENS' CONCERNS

II PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

1. 7:05 16 Silver Hill Road – Amit Bahn
2. 7:15 1 Assabet Crossing – Paul and Susan Haverstock
3. 7:30 2 Assabet Crossing – Michael and Carolyn Saviello
4. 7:45 2 Mallett Drive - Yih-Yih & Chiu-Shia
5. 8:00 Assabet Crossing Overview – Paul Gaboury
6. 8:10 12 Assabet Crossing – Paul and Michele Gaboury
7. 8:20 4 Assabet Crossing – James and Roberta King
8. 8:30 6 Assabet Crossing – Michael and Elizabeth Perry
9. 8:40 8 Assabet Crossing – Feng Zhang and Lena Li
10. 8:50 10 Assabet Crossing – Jeremy and Maria Greene
11. 9:00 14 Assabet Crossing – Ian Hirst, Trustee Hirst Nominee Trust
12. 9:10 26 School Street - Antonio DaCosta
13. OTHER BUSINESS

III CONSENT AGENDA

IV TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

V EXECUTIVE SESSION

**SELECTMENS MEETING
OCTOBER 11, 2005
7:00 P.M.**

RECEIVED & FILE

NOV 16 2005

TOWN CLERK
ACTON

Acton Memorial Library, Ashton, Foster, Rosenzweig, Foster and the Town Manager

Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust Refinancing of the Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan - DORE' HUNTER - Moved to execute the Bond- WALTER FOSTER – second. UNANIMOUS VOTE

ADJOURNED at 7:10 p.m

Christine Joyce

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J. Dore Hunter

Clerk, Board of Selectmen

11/14/05

Date

October 11, 2005

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: Peter Ashton, Chairman

SUBJECT: SPECIAL SELECTMEN'S MEETING

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I CITIZENS' CONCERNS

II PUBLIC HEARINGS & APPOINTMENTS

III SELECTMEN'S BUSINESS

- 1. 7:00 – MASSACHUSETTS WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT TRUST
REFINANCING** – Enclosed please find materials related to refinancing of the Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan (CWRMP), for Board consideration and signature.
- 2. OTHER BUSINESS**

IV EXECUTIVE SESSION