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NARRAGANSETT TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM REPORT

DATE: June 3, 2024
FROM: Jonathan Gerhard, Town Engineer
DEPARTMENT: Engineering Department

SUBJECT:

A MOTION TO APPROVE the recommendations of the Sewer Policy Committee and grant a waiver relative to Sewer Policy Section 3.c to Plat N-S Lot 399 (147 Treasure Road) and also grant a waiver relative to Sewer Policy Section 7.h for this property.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

The Sewer Policy Committee meets on an ad hoc basis to hear appeals from staff level decisions relating to the Town's Sewer Policy. The Town Council referred the appeal from this applicant to the Sewer Policy Committee on September 5, 2023. The property is in the area of Town serviced by the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facilities and is within a Sewer Area. The property is developed as a single-family home serviced by an existing onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS). The closest existing public sewer lines are on Bayberry Road and Treasure Road. In support of this request, the applicant provided a report of an inspection performed by a registered septic system inspector indicating that the system is not functioning properly and has failed. Based on this documentation, staff supported this request for relief. After discussion at the May 6, 2024 meeting, the Sewer Policy Committee voted to recommend that the Town Council approve the application for Plat N-S Lot 399.

Town Council voted to continue this item at the May 20, 2024 regular meeting pending attachment of documentation provided by the applicant in support of the waiver request, which is now included with this item along with a plan of the property location. Minutes from the October 16, 2023 Sewer Policy Committee meeting and draft minutes from the May 6, 2024 Sewer Policy Committee meeting are also attached for additional reference.

At the time of the May 6, 2024 meeting, flow data for the Regional WWTF was reported through March 2024 and the Town's three (3) year running average flow to the Regional WWTF from April 2021 through March 2024 was 84.2% of our combined (owned and leased) capacity. Flow data for the Regional WWTF has since been reported through April 2024 and the Town's three (3) year running average flow to the Regional WWTF from May 2021 through April 2024 was 85.1% of our combined (owned and leased) capacity, exceeding the 85% Sewer Policy threshold and necessitating a waiver of Sewer Policy Section 7.h in addition to the waiver originally requested by the applicant.

If the Town Council is inclined to grant this waiver, the following conditions will apply:

1. Any sewer extension must be designed and installed across the full frontage of the property in question.
2. All design and construction costs must be paid for by the applicant, and the sewer must be inspected and accepted by the Town before actual connection permits are issued.
3. Sewer Lot Development Fees (all areas) and Infiltration\Inflow Removal Fees (areas tributary to the Regional WWTF only) apply to each unit according to the Sewer Policy.
4. The Town has a ten (10) year cost recovery program that allows the applicant to recoup a pro-rata share of the installation cost from abutting property owners.
5. If a connection to a private sewer is under consideration, the applicant must present written approval to connect to same from the owner of said sewer as a condition of approval.

The above conditions will be applied to the waiver request noted herein, should said waiver be granted by the Town Council. A sewer extension across the full width of the property as described above will provide frontage for nine properties in Plat N-S in addition to Lot 399 (147 Treasure Road).

ATTACHMENTS:

[SPC_Backup_Information_147_Treasure_Road.pdf](#)

[SPC Meeting May 6, 2024 meeting minutes draft.pdf](#)

[SPC Meeting October 16, 2023 meeting minutes approved.pdf](#)