

**MINUTES JOINT MEETING OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT SEWER AUTHORITY
AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT
MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016, 4:00 P.M. AT THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT CONFERENCE ROOM
LOCATED AT 113 BRUSH HILL ROAD, GOSHEN INSIDE THE PORTABLE TRAILER**

CALL TO ORDER: Raymond Turri, President, called the meeting to order at 4:00PM

ATTENDANCE: Board members present, Alfred Shull, James Hiltz, Richard Reis (Alternate), Joan M. Lang. Also present Laurie Mosley Tax Collector and recording clerk for the WLSA, Plant Superintendent, Charles Ekstrom, Kenneth Green from the Planning Committee and Bruce Chudwick from Shipman and Goodwin, Counselor at Law.

EXCUSED: James Mersfelder. President Raymond Turri asked to seat alternate Richard Reis in for excused member James Mersfelder.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the March 21, 2016 meeting were presented for approval.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Richard Reis, seconded by Joan Lang to approve said minutes as written. There was no discussion on the minutes, **SO VOTED.**

REPORT FROM PLANT SUPERINTENDENT: Monthly report – Woodridge Lake Sewer District April 18, 2016. This report is for March and April.

Personnel:

Charles Ekstrom reported Jason Patrick left on March 3rd to take a Supervisory job in the City of Waterbury Wastewater Plant. He noted Jason was an excellent employee and will be missed. A help wanted ad was published and eight applicants were received. Charlie interviewed five of these applicants. On March 28th, Joseph Palumbo was hired.

Mark Theriault – Perfect attendance.

Mark is on vacation this week, Charlie is putting Chuck on call for the first time however, Chuck will follow up with Charlie during this time just to be sure all is going correctly.

Charles (Chuck) Fennimore – 1 ½ funeral days (mother- in-law). He has now completed 4 months. Charlie presented an evaluation on Chuck (to be on file in the personnel file). Charlie would like to take him off probation and recommend a \$1/hour pay increase. **MOTION WAS MADE BY** Alfred Shull seconded by Richard Reis, to approve a one dollar raise starting April 24, 2016 to Charles Fennimore. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

Joseph Palumbo – Start work March 28. At this early date, Charlie can report he is a good employee.

Projects:

Plant Pump Station- Eastern completed the installation of the replacement valves at plant pump station on March 1 without difficulties. After the station was in full service we noted a ragging problem on pump #1. Eastern returned on March 3 to de-rag the pump and clean the wet well. We discovered that the service

catwalk had collapsed into the bottom of the wetwell and accumulated a massive amount of rags. Eastern removed the broken catwalk and cleared all debris.

During the thunderstorms of February 25, in addition the power outages, we experienced a pump failure at station #8, a power surge blew a golf ball sized hole in pump #2s motor windings, and burned the contacts in the control breaker. Integrity electric replaced the control contacts on Feb 29, and Eastern reinstalled the repaired pump on Mar 29. Raymond Turri asked if this could go under insurance, Charlie commented that there was no real way to prove it was weather/surge related.

Somat repairs – On March 30 we disassembled the Somat sludge processing unit and replaced the screen, brushes, and bearings.

I/I project – In an effort to locate and further control flow surges due to I/I, a monitoring agreement was reached with Dave Prickett to install 3 flow meters into manholes in the station #6 sub-area and conduct a four week study. Cost approximately \$7,000. The meters were installed on March 31. Discussion on the reasons to target, locate and remove any infiltration to the system continued. Charlie reported that the flow monitoring project will help locate acute sources within the collection system, whether it be from homeowner's laterals, heavy rainfall events and/or high groundwater periods.

Pump Station #6- Over the last several months we have been experiencing a number of call-outs for #2 pump at station #6 where the pump fails to start. I have had integrity electric out several times to diagnose the problem and everything points to an issue in the soft-start on the pump. I have not gotten a quote to replace the unit and the control switches as yet, but the best estimate is between \$9,000 and \$10,000. The call outs have been random, but are averaging 1-2 times per week, which can average over \$100 in overtime pay. I would like to go forward with this repair as soon as I get a final quote, hopefully that will be this week. **MOTION WAS MADE BY** Richard Reis seconded by Alfred Shull, to allow Charlie to forward with this project as presented. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

Lab computer – At 6 years old, this is the oldest computer we have, and it is having some operational problems. I have a quote from Berkshire to replace this one with a new Dell comparable to the other computers on site for \$1000. This includes installation and all software. **MOTION WAS MADE BY** Joan Lang seconded by Richard Reis, to approve the request for a new computer. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

Force-main inspection – During meetings with Dave Prickett regarding our proposed pipeline option, he indicated there is a new technology that would allow us to evaluate the condition of the force main leading from plant pump station to the treatment plant. This is a 40 year old cast iron pipe going under the Bantam River, and from an environmental liability standpoint, our weakest point. At an estimated cost of \$25,000 to \$30,000 I would suggest that the Board consider investigating this testing further. Discussion occurred over how important this is going forward with the planned project to go to Torrington. This pipe has not been inspected and is a major connection to all wastewater travel. This inspection would avoid any environmental disaster, and if any repairs are needed, it would cost much less now. The Board feels this would be a project to look into.

Plant flows – for February the average daily flow was 111,000 gallons and the total precipitation was 8.77". (The storms on Feb 25 dropped 3.92" of rain and raised our daily flow to 242,000 gallons). In March the average daily flow was 96,000, and the precipitation was 3.12". So far in April the average daily flow is 96,000 and the total precipitation is 2.49".

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Richard Reis reported that he had looked over all the financial reports and we are well under our budgeted expenses. Everything looked normal.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT- No update.

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT- With Planning Committee member Kenneth Green attending the meeting, Raymond Turri wanted to review some things with the board. Raymond reported that he would meet with Nancy Wadhams on Wednesday morning. The District did a site drawing of her property and the Goodhouse property. They also went to the Town of Goshen to find all easements on the properties. They found that in 1972 a Joseph and Marcus Goodhouse signed an easement that ran from the gate all the way to beginning of Brush Hill. The issue is that they did not own a part of that property that was given an easement, it is part of the Wadhams property. Ray will go over the site plan and show Nancy Wadhams where we would need a 66 foot easement for the pipe placement. Nancy has been very open and helpful in the success of this project and Ray does not see any problems arising. A legal document will be drawn up after she has verbally agreed to the placement/easement of the piping.

On April 30, 2016 our Annual meeting will be held to elect Board members but will also include an informational presentation on the project for taxpayers. At this meeting, the project will be presented and questions can be answered. Kenneth Green reported that he had put together a power point presentation, with James Mersfelder adding information, to use as a tool for getting the information out. This would be handed out at the meeting and posted on the website once completed. Leading onward, on May 28, 2016 we will hold our Annual Budget Operational meeting with an added agenda item of voting on the project. Bruce Chudwick, Counselor at Law, discussed the legal aspects to this vote and would report back to the board and taxpayers on the State Statues laws regarding voting regulations for property owners. Bruce suggested the board have a meeting after the April 30th Annual meeting to discuss any questions or concerns that may arise at the presentation. Also at this time, the WLSA Authority Board would give their recommendation of approval for the resolution to the District Board, and then the District Board would official approve the resolution to the project. The Board agreed to schedule a meeting for 11:00AM or immediately following the Annual meeting. Bruce also commented that someone needs to moderate the May 28th meeting. This person must be a taxpayer in the district but should not be a member of the board. President Raymond Turri asked Kenneth Green if he would be willing to be nominated as Moderator for the meeting. Kenneth agreed. Note- Others could also be nominated from the floor and voted in at this time.

NEW BUSINESS. MOTION WAS MADE BY Alfred Shull seconded by Richard Reis, to accept the Engineering Services Proposal from David Prickett Consulting, LLC, for the Collection System Flow Monitoring for I/I Removal Project, as discussed under Plant Supervisor Charlie Ekstrom's report, current cost at \$7000 not to exceed \$20,000. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Joan Lang seconded by Richard Reis, to adjourn at 5:40PM. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred L. Shull, Clerk

Laurie Mosley, recording Clerk

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