

MINUTES JOINT MEETING OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT SEWER AUTHORITY
AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2014, 6:00 P.M. WOODRIDGE LAKE CLUB HOUSE
EAST HYERDALE DRIVE, GOSHEN, CONNECTICUT

CALL TO ORDER: Raymond A. Turri, Chairman and President of both Boards respectively called the Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Board members Raymond Turri, Robert Goldfeld, James Hiltz, Joan Lang and Jim Mersfelder by conference phone. Also present Richard Reis, Chairman of the WLSO Finance Committee, Charles Ekstrom, WLSO Plant Superintendent and interested WLSO tax payers, Al Shull Lot #301, Godwin Noell Lot #591 and, Scott Donahue Lot #402.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the October 20, 2014 meeting were presented for approval. Noted for correction under the heading of the minutes was a type-o in the spelling of the word Directors. There were no other corrections or discussion on the minutes. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Bob Goldfeld seconded by Jim Hiltz to approve said minutes as corrected. **SO VOTED.**

MONTHLY OPERATIONAL REPORT: The Operational Report for period covering November 17, 2014 is on file with the minutes of this meeting and said report was presented by Plant Superintendent Charlie Ekstrom who reported on the following:

Personnel – Jason Patrick – 1 ½ sick days
Mark Theriault – ½ sick day
Michael Migaldi – ½ sick day

Pump Station #3 – Eastern has started the repair work with the piping for Pump #2 being pulled and the shutoff valve was replaced. The new base plate and pump assembly are scheduled to be installed on Tuesday the 18th. Pump #1 will be pulled and rebuilt.

Pump Station #8 – The Board approved up to \$15,000 for repairs to Pump Station #8 and the quote from Eastern came in at \$14,544.00. Under Board approval, fabrication of the base plate has been started by, Eastern. Once P.S. #3 repairs are completed Eastern will start on P.S. #8 upgrade.

Road Resurfacing - With the resurfacing of portions of East Hyerdale, Marshepaug and Brynmoor by the Goshen Highway Dept. the District provided riser rings as needed and made sure all manholes remained accessible.

Fire Extinguishers – All Fire extinguishers were inspected and serviced. Three extinguishers which were 30 years old were replaced at an estimated cost of \$500 for the three new ones.

Winter preparation – Annual servicing of the John Deere tractor was completed by Stanton. The roadway to the beds and cell tower has been graded. All snow removal equipment and supplies have been made ready for winter.

Flat Bed Truck Tire Replacement: All the tires on the Flat Bed Truck have been replaced at a cost of \$344.19 per tire.

Plant Flows – The average daily flow for October was 70,000 gpd with total precipitation of 6.51” To date for November the average daily flow is 69,000 gallons with precipitation of 1.06”. With the Deep cuts that were done, the average daily flows since the July 4th weekend have been under 75,000 gpd.

Charlie Ekstrom informed the Board that he would be away the week of November 24 through the 29th and would be back in the office on December 1. Discussed were the on going inflow/infiltration repairs and it was noted that all connections into the system are made directly into a manhole, no more in line saddle connections are allowed. No other items were discussed under the operational report and Charlie Ekstrom left the meeting at 6:15 P.M.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Treasurer Jim Mersfelder reported on the following financials for the period ending October 31, 2014: Sewer Tax Collection – A total of \$11,000.00 in delinquent taxes was collected over the past month. The total amount in delinquent taxes as of 10/30/2014 is \$24,511.53 vs. \$39,219.34 last year at this time. Work continues on cleaning up the delinquent taxes that are aged by four months.

Operational Budget Report continues to show a favorable balance of \$21,018.00 under budget for period ending October 31, 2014. Timing issues continue to have a bearing on the projected year to date forecast. Discussed was the current amount of excess cash the District has invested in CD's and the Finance Committee has been looking at reinvesting some of the CD's into other banks that are offering a better interest rate. Jim Mersfelder asked the Board to give authorization to transfer the current CD's as they come due into short term CD accounts with the Thomaston Savings Bank and the Northwest Community Bank. Acting on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Ray Turri seconded by Bob Goldfeld to give authorization to reallocate some of the excess funds of the District into short term CD accounts with Thomaston Savings Bank and Northwest Community Bank. There was no discussion on the motion, **SO VOTED.**

New Finance Committee Member– It was recommended by the current members of the WLSD Finance Committee that Dan Pappalardo be added as new member of the Finance Committee. Dan Pappalardo is a Woodridge Lake Property Owner who comes with a background in Finances. Acting on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, **A MOTION WAS MADE** Joan Lang seconded by Ray Turri to appoint Dan Pappalardo to the WLSD Finance Committee. Dwight Kellogg would remain on the Finance Committee as an alternate member. There was no discussion on the motion, **SO VOTED.** There were no other items presented under the Financial Report.

Planning Committee Update – With no meetings being held, there was very little to report. Ray Turri reported that he had received a letter from Michael Rendulic of the USDA which confirmed that they had received, review and approved the contract documents associated with the Pump Station Upgrades and the contract documents for the I/I Rehabilitation work. Said letter is on file in the office of the Clerk of the District.

Ray Turri informed those present that Torrington voters had overwhelmingly approved the \$55 million upgrade to their wastewater treatment facility.

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Letter to Taxpayers- It was noted that the Board, at the October 20th meeting had discussed the Districts future exposure relative to the potential number of connections into the WLSD sewer system. To verify the exposure, a letter has gone out to 170 WL property owners who have vacant lots asking that they verify the status of their lot or lots as buildable or if not buildable, its current designation as a conservation property. A one on one meetings will be held with each of the six property owners who collectively control approximately 60 potential connections. To date, the mail and phone response to the letter has been good. The first meeting with one of the six property owners owning multiple lots is scheduled to be held this week.

New Business: A request was received from WLSD Tax Collector Laurie Mosley for Board approval of a Sewer Tax Overpayment refund in the amount of \$39.74 in the name of Lahmer Lynds. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Ray Turri, seconded by Bob Goldfeld to approve the \$39.74 sewer tax refund to Lahmer Lynds. There was no discussion on the motion, **SO VOTED.**

The June 30, 2015 Fiscal Audit of the Financial records has been completed and received by the Board and legal notice verifying the audit of the Financial records of the District will be posted. It was noted by Jim Mersfelder that said audit is posted on the District's web-site.

Other Business: Woodridge Lake Property owner Al Shull requested to be heard and questioned why the posting of the District's committee meeting dates were not posted on the District web-site? Ray Turri stated that he did not know of any reason why, but noted that currently there is no set schedule for any of the committees and that meetings were called as needed. Also questioned was why the minutes were also not posted on the website. Jim Mersfelder noted that in the past, some of the minutes have been posted, he was not sure if they have of late, but would look into the matter of getting them posted.

Al Shull, as stated in the past, again noted that he really thinks the Board is doing a great job in doing what they are doing, but he has an issue with the cost allocations for whatever the cost are for upgrades the have to be borne by the tax payer. Regarding that issue, Al Shull presented to the Board an **"Open Letter to the Woodridge Lake Sewer District Board"**. He did not seek a response at this meeting but hoped that the Board would take his letter under advisement and agree with his position on the matter. The minutes note the Board's receipt of said open letter from Al Shull. Al Shull also questioned why at the District Board meetings that he has attended that he has not seen any alternate Board members present. Ray Turri noted that the current two alternate members are basically in name only and Jack Kelley has attended several of the meetings. Although they do not attend all the meetings, both alternates receive copies of all the minutes of the Board meetings and are kept apprised of any District issues.

2015 Board Meeting Schedule: The Board members were in agreement of keeping the current third Monday of each month meeting schedule for the 2015 Calendar Year. Said 2015 meeting schedule would be drafted and made available to the Board members and for posting on the District website.

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There was no other business to come before the meeting. Ray Turri called for a motion to adjourn. Joan Lang seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

WLSDSA/WLSD

Joan M. Lang, Secretary and Clerk of both boards respectively