

MINUTES REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE
SEWER DISTRICT SEWER AUTHORITY & BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT, MONDAY, MAY 19, 2014
6:00 P.M. CONFERENCE ROOM, WOODRIDGE LAKE CLUB HOUSE
EAST HYERDALE DRIVE, GOSHEN, CT

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M by Raymond A. Turri, Chairman and President of both boards respectively.

ATTENDANCE: Present were Raymond A. Turri, Jim Hiltz, Joan Lang and by conference phone, Jim Mersfelder and Bob Goldfeld. Also present Richard Reis Chairman of the WLSD Finance Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Presented for approval were the minutes of the April 8, 2014 regular monthly Board meeting. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Ray Turri seconded by Jim Mersfelder to approve said minutes. There was no discussion on the minutes, the minutes **were approved** as presented.

Presented for approval were the minutes of the Monday, May 5, 2014 special budget meeting of the Board. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Ray Turri seconded Joan Lang to approve said minutes. There was no discussion on the minutes, the minutes were **approved** as presented. Jim Mersfelder abstained from voting.

PLANT MANAGERS REPORT: Plant Manager Charles Ekstrom reported on the following and the report is on file with the minutes of this meeting:

Personnel: Jason Patrick has completed three (3) additional on-line courses in preparation for the Class IV exam and he is scheduled to take a State sponsored sampling course on Thursday, May 22nd. Mark Theriault is signed up to take a four day preparation course in June for the Class III exam in July. Charlie Ekstrom informed the Board that he would not be able to be in attendance at the June 16th District Board Meeting.

Projects: Pump Station #2 - With the continued use of the “hooks” to monitor the ragging issues in PS#2, no rages have been caught as of late. Eastern Water is scheduled to replace the hatch cover on the wet well during the week of June 9. Through cooperative efforts with the Town of Goshen, Ed Perry, Superintendent of Goshen Public Works has offered to waive the excavation permit and provide hot patch to fill in the area around the cover.

Portable Emergency Generator – The rebuilding of the water pump has been completed and Tower Generator is scheduled to install the water pump along with replacing the radiator hoses. During the down time of the portable generator, on April 24th, it became necessary to rent a portable generator from Tower Generator on during the time that CL&P had a scheduled 7 hour power shut down for repair work.

Roadway repair – Colby Excavating completed the upgrade to the access road to the sludge dumping area. The total cost of equipment, material and labor was \$4,000.00.

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Spring cleanup – Plant personnel have been working on small outdoor lawn cleanup, improving drainage ditches and repaint and repairing of all bed valve handles and repairs to the disposal beds and the cell tower roadway

In ground Testing of all Tanks: The Testing was done by Corr Tech on April 23rd and the Board received a printed report of the Testing of the tanks. The test results showed corrosion going on and none of the tanks showed having the proper amount of resistance and feet that the installation of eight magnesium anodes per tank may not produce the desired effect. If the District wished to have further evaluate the conditions a dewatering cleaning process could be done and do an ultra sound of the tanks but based on the age of the tanks and the unknown future relative on site disposal or pumping to Torrington there is the potential that “good money could be thrown away for bad.” Of the eight tanks, the two Clarifiers were found to be in the best condition. Based on the test results, the Board was of the decision that no action be taken at this time to install any anodes or other testing at this time.

Plant Flows- The average daily flow for April was 146,000 gallons with a maximum daily flow of 239,000 and total precipitation of 9.03”. To date for the month of May, the average daily flow is 146,000 gallons with a maximum daily flow of 230,000 gallons and 3.11” of rain.

No date has been set for the remaining deep cut work to be done but Charlie Ekstrom will be working with Fay & Wright relative to having the work done under the current fiscal year budget. Charlie Ekstrom noted that he was working with Fay & Wright to clarify the charges for the work that was done last fall relative to the repaving of West Hyerdale.

Pump Station #6 access road repairs – The access road near pump station #6 that goes in toward the tennis courts at the Woodridge Lake Club House is in need of repairs and the WLPOA who also uses the road would split the cost of upgrade with the District to make the necessary upgrade. Jim Mersfelder stated that he would like to see the work done as soon as possible so the cost can come in under the current fiscal budget. There was no other items discussed under the Plant Managers report and Charlie Ekstrom left the meeting at 6:20 P.M.

APRIL 30, 2014 FINANCIAL REPORTS: WLSD Treasurer Jim Mersfelder reported on the following - The collection of back taxes continues to move along. As of April 30, 2014 the total number of delinquent tax payers was 30 vs. 36 last year at this time. Eight of the delinquent taxpayers are on payment plans with six being handled by the Marshal. The total delinquent dollar amount as of April 30, is \$26,926.94. The Full Year Operating Forecast for April shows the Operating expenditures to be \$38,418.87 under budget. Regarding the Board approved lawyers’ letter which was to be sent to the most significant delinquent taxpayer, Chip Roraback informed Jim Mersfelder that having provided legal services to Tom Attea that he would have to recuse himself regarding any action against Attea. Roraback said, he would talk with Mr. Attea to let him know what the District is doing. Jim Hiltz noted that the property is in foreclosure and in the

process of being sold under a form of quick sale. Mr. Attea did inform Chip Roraback that he would continue to pay his agreed amount of \$200.00 a month until the sale goes through. At the time of sale, the District should receive what is due in taxes, interest and lien fees.

FULL YEAR OPERATION FORECAST: The April 30, 2014 report shows the operating expenditures to be \$36,418.67 under budget. The significant drop from the March report is due to the booking of the \$50,000 deep cut project and the \$20,000 increase for legal expenses.

CASH FLOW ANALYSIS: The Cash Flow Analysis for April remained relatively the same as what was reported for March. There were a few minor corrections in the year to date and May forecast. The removal of the \$12,111 Tractor Lease expense was also removed from the Cash Flow Analysis.

Discussed was the upcoming Annual Budget Meeting and if any of the Board Members had heard any comments or been asked any questions relative to what is going relative to budget numbers and what the financial future is for the District. Ray Turri emphasized the fact that the agenda for the Budget meeting on Saturday, May 24th is for the purpose of adopting the annual budget, laying the tax rate and setting the mil rate for 2014/2015. Based on the outcome of the May 15th meeting with the DEEP, the Board has no clear directive from DEEP or any solid numbers relative to the cost for on-site disposal or piping to Torrington and feels it is premature to get into any lengthy discussion with the taxpayers until such time as the Board has more information. A synopsis of the May 15th meeting with the DEEP has been written up and Ray Turri recommended that after the Budget items on the agenda had been acted upon that a brief report be given on the results of the meeting with DEEP.

After a lengthy discussion, as to what to present to the taxpayers at this time the Board felt it best to give a summary approved by legal council on the May 15th meeting with DEEP and let the Taxpayers know that a public hearing would be scheduled to be held on Saturday, July 26th to present to the taxpayers the issues of funding and the means of how the revenue will be raised to cover the cost. It was hoped the District would know by then if the District would be eligible for any CT Clean Water loans and grants. A follow-up letter will be sent to, George Hicks who chaired the May 15th Clean Water Fund Hearing.

Ad Valorem/Fixed Fee: Discussed by the Board was the establishment of the method to be used for funding of the upcoming projects and the board was in agreement that before trying to make any decisions at that time that a special meeting should be held by the Board to further discuss the options.

Having been recently re-elected to the Sewer Authority Board Bob Goldfeld questioned what the difference was between the two Boards. Joan Lang stated the District Board is the governing Board, the Sewer Authority Board is the working Board. Jim Mersfelder

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suggested that if he wanted a more detailed explanation, that he ask Chip Roraback for one. It was noted that all the meetings are jointly held meetings of both Boards.

New Business: Reviewed briefly was the request for help from a Woodridge Lake members concerning a letter received from the State of CT denying him the right to build on his lot after it had been approved by the Goshen Inland/Wetlands and what he needed to do to get the sewer taxes taken off the property. It was noted that his lot should now be assessed as a membership lot and all membership lots get taxed, but at a lower assessed value. To better understand the State denial and the Inland/Wetlands permit of approval to build, Ray Turri stated that at the next Inland/Wetlands meeting he would discuss the matter with Marty Connor, the Town Enforcement Officer.

XP to be replaced by Windows 7: Joan Lang reported that Windows XP support has ended and if the District continues to use Windows XP the system will work but it becomes more vulnerable to security risks and viruses. To avoid that risk, the District should upgrade the computers. A quote has been requested for our Tech Support. Depending on the age of one of the computers, there could be a cost for a new computer. Jim Mersfelder recommended that we try to get it done during the current fiscal year.

Joan Lang reported that she believed that she is not being copied on all the e-mails that were being sent out by some of the Board members and the planning Committee. Jim Mersfelder pointed out that if you were not in attendance at the meeting, and unless it is a Board issue, you would not receive the e-mail.

There was no other business to come before the meeting. Ray Turri asked for **A MOTION TO ADJOURN**, Joan Lang so moved and the meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

WLSDSA/WLSD

Joan M. Lang, Secretary and Clerk respectively