

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR JOINT MEETING OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT SEWER AUTHORITY AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021 AT 3:00 P.M. HELD REMOTELY THROUGH ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

CALL TO ORDER: Raymond Turri called the meeting to order at 3:01PM.

ATTENDANCE: Board members attending Raymond Turri, Alfred Shull, Jeff Clark, Richard Reis, James Mersfelder and Dave Hazan, also attending Tax Collector/Clerk Laurie Mosley and Plant Superintendent Mark Theriault.

EXCUSED: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the regular board meeting held December 8, 2020, Special meetings December 22 & 31, 2020 were presented for approval.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Alfred Shull, seconded by Jim Mersfelder; to approve said minutes as presented. No other corrections or discussions. **SO VOTED.**

REPORT FROM PLANT SUPERINTENDENT AKA CHIEF OPERATOR- MARK THERIAULT

- In December we had a major snowstorm to deal with. Mark & Billy stayed at the plant to respond to alarms. We experienced many power flashes that tripped out the blowers and clarifiers but no wide spread outages occurred. There was a lot of snow cleanup the following day and we spent the entire day shoveling, snow blowing and plowing. The tractor died while up in back dumping sludge and the snow blower stopped working making things difficult but we resolved all the issues within a few days.
- Mark had Toce replace a rear tire on the John Deere tractor. The tire was badly worn and had a slow leak. Mark had replaced one tire two months ago so both rear tires are new.
- Mark replaced the battery on the gator this week. The battery was the original and had been going bad for a while. Mark went to NAPA for a new battery.
- Mark received a phone call from Conner Bennett of Northfield. Conner was looking to see if the position for Operator 1 was still available. Conner was at the top of Mark's list of applicants received from Indeed, but when he called him at the time, he had just accepted a new job. Mark met with Conner twice and offered him the position. He sent him to Concentra for a physical and drug screen. Conner starts on January 18th.
- Mark replaced the battery on the main PLC at the plant. The battery went dead and couldn't be charged. He went to fire equipment headquarters for a new one.
- Flows: The average daily flow for December was 135,000gpd; the total rainfall was 4.0in. The average daily flow to date for January is 144,000gpd and the total rainfall to date is .75in. (The highest daily flow for December came on Christmas day with all the rain and snow melt. 314,000 gallons and 2.1in of rain)
- On Sunday December 13th at 10:00pm Mark responded to a call for high water at station 5. When he got there he could hear water splashing in the wet well. He opened the hatch to the wet well to find pump 4 running but the water it was pumping was spilling back into the wet well. He called Eastern Water as this happened with each of the pumps. Eastern came out immediately and found that a flange on one of the pipes in the wet well, rotted and broke causing the pipe work connected to pump 2 and pump 4 to break away tipping to the side breaking the guide poles as well as the bases on pumps 2 and 4. Eastern worked on the issue for 3 days and one night, coming back for two more days to complete the project. Eastern had to take apart and rebuild half of the station. Mark has not received an invoice with the cost for the repairs yet. This will be an expensive repair.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Under Financial Reports, David reported December was a good month. Income was up, mainly due to a Sewer permit fee received. Expenses were down. Worth noting; with just two employees on health benefits and pensions those items will be much lower for a while, we did receive Invoices for legal fees that were mostly for the Ad Valorem court case, and under other expenses was lawn care which is just a timing issue to payment.

Laurie reported on the delinquent report. We have 18 taxpayers in arrears for a total of \$27,416.17 compared to last year's 18, \$16,795.41. She reported the marshal has collected partial payments of a couple delinquents. The other current delinquents have paid up just a little. The Governor has issued Executive Order No.9R by the State of Connecticut which states any unpaid balance after February 1, 2021 will be charged a temporary reduced rate of interest at 0.25% per month from January 1 – March 31, 2021. This temporary reduced rate of interest only applies to the January 1 installment of taxes. This does not apply to any delinquent tax due from July 2020 or subsequent years.

FLOWS- Jeff Clark discussed his flow charts. With this meeting being Jeff's last, he wanted to present the full picture of his charts, in a simple way so he could pass it off with ease. Interesting facts of the past couple months ending December 30, 2020, was that even though the ADF was up to 135,000gpd, the groundwater level is still a foot below level. Jeff reported he went back in time to figure out what our sanitary flow was (Dave Prickett had taught Jeff how to calculate this, go back to the driest time of year, which you would assume would not have any I&I, divide it by connections and that would give you the daily household sanitary flow). Jeff calculated that in 2016 our average sanitary gpd per connection was 280, in 2019 it increased by 22% to 340 gpd per connection. With households now being more full time, more people working from home and empty houses being rented, our flows have increased. When adding I & I averages in with the sanitary average, Jeff reported that our yearly flow for 2020 had increased by 7.5%. If we were to make an appropriate forecast amount for a daily flow, it would be at 107,000 verses 100,000 of past years.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Richard Reis seconded by Alfred Shull, to go into Executive Session at 3:36PM to discuss the Sewer Pipeline. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

At 3:41PM **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Alfred Shull, seconded by Jeff Clark to come out of Executive Session. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

OPEN END ISSUES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS IF ANY- None

NEW BUSINESS- Laurie Mosley reported that she needed two refunds approved for overpayment of taxes. The first one is to Vita Muir for \$1118.82, and the second one to Kevin & Lisa McNamara for \$403.22. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Alfred Shull, seconded by Jim Mersfelder, to approve the presented refunds. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

(Note-Jeff Clark has officially given in his resignation due to selling his property within the Woodridge Lake Sewer District effective today). Jim Mersfelder wanted to take a moment to thank Jeff Clark for all the work he has done over the 5 plus years he has been on the Board. He has worked on many projects with great diligence, commitment and accomplishments. Jeff commented that he would be available for support if needed with the programs he has set up. He commented it was a pleasure to work with the team. Jeff will be missed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY James Mersfelder, seconded by Richard Reis, to adjourn at 3:45PM. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred L. Shull, Clerk

Laurie Mosley, Recording Clerk
WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT SEWER AUTHORITY
WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT