

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, FEBRUARY 8, 2022 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, James Mersfelder, Richard Reis, Alfred Shull, Alternate Norval Lunan, Alternate Jerry Abrahams, also attending Tax Collector/Clerk Laurie Mosley and Plant Superintendent Mark Theriault.

EXCUSED: Dave Hazan

A MOTION WAS MADE BY, Alfred Shull seconded by Richard Reis; to seat alternate Norval Lunan as a voting member in the absence of David Hazan. All in favor. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the regular board meeting held January 11, 2022 was presented for approval. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY,** Richard Reis seconded by Alfred Shull; to approve said minutes as presented. No corrections or discussions. **ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

REPORT FROM PLANT SUPERINTENDENT AKA CHIEF OPERATOR- MARK THERIAULT

Mark thanked the board for addressing the pay scale issue on wages. The spirits are up at the plant with the increase in hourly wages for of the employees that were in question.

- Conor and Mark have been working on uncovering the manholes that were chip sealed over. They have two more to get to as soon as the weather allows them to. All of the manholes they had inspected had paper and loose stone over them to protect them. Some had been uncovered by the plow truck going over them. When they got to those, they needed little to no work to get open. The others had a thicker layer of tar on them but cleaned up nicely with little to no effort due to the paper and loose stone.
- Conor put new lights, front and rear on the John Deere Tractor. The factory lights were in need of repair or replacement for a while now. It was more cost effective to replace the lights than to repair the old ones.
- The new replacement pump for station 6 came in and is ready to be installed in the case of an emergency. Mark now has 3 pumps that can be used at station 6. If one goes down, he can replace it with a spare.
- Eastern has been here to work on rebuilding the plant manhole. The tank has been cleaned and vacuumed out and the 2 new pumps with guides and bases are in, one is wired up and the other will be when they come back to replace the controls.
- Mark had Eastern here to pull the Muffin Monster grinder; he didn't think it was working the way it should. He felt that is what led to the issue with all the rags last month. Upon inspection, they found that the teeth were very badly worn and needed to be replaced. The case on the motor also had a burnt spot on it and would also need to be replaced in the near future. The entire unit was original and in very bad condition. Eastern recommended that we replace the entire unit with new. Mark had Eastern get him a quote and he ordered a new grinder, it is 4-5 weeks out. Until then, they are using the bar screen. Ray asked how much the quote was, Mark replied around \$46,000.
- Mark signed both Billy and Conor up to take the state exam for the Class I operator certification. Conor took the exam Friday Feb 4th and Billy will be taking his exam Tuesday Feb 15th. Conor did not pass the exam. Fail rate is around 50% for all students. The state has a new policy for taking the test, you can take the test 3 times in one year, it use to be only twice. He should be able to sign up for another go at it in three months.

- Mark had Pump 2 @ station 9 Tripp out and wouldn't reset. Mark called Eastern to look at it. Eastern found the motor to have a short in the windings and took it back to the shop. The drive for that pump is also not working. Mark had Scott from Turri Masterson here to replace the drive with one that Mark had on the stock shelf. Mark had Scott get him another drive to put back in stock for when we need one again. Ray mentioned that they are ordering a new computer for the plant for Conor to work on a maintenance/work log/ replacement history of all items; machines etc. at the plant and pump stations. Mark commented that he has a maintenance program that they follow but will update, he also asked Eastern to recommend needed maintenance for our operations. This would hopefully avoid costly repairs and overtime.
- Mark had an alarm at station 1 for high water in the wet-well. He found the level indicator to be bad at that station. Eastern is getting a new level indicator for that station and 2 more for Mark to have on the stock shelf. That station needed to be watched and pumped down manually from Monday to Friday. Mark did call in NIC to test the system to see if there were any bad connections going on. Those turned out fine however Mark commented that there are junction boxes that hold the electrical elements and they were wet, damp, and dirty and that could issue. Discussion on how to fix and maintain all the pump stations with this issue.
- Flows: The average daily flow for January was 84,000gpd and the total rainfall was 1.90in. The average daily flow for February is 80,000gpd and the rainfall to date is 0in.

Ray added that at Pump Station 6 (WLPOA Clubhouse area) there are plans to put in new playground, a basketball court and small building. Our pump station is abutting the area and we have a forced main pipe there. Ray observed heavy equipment at the site and has told the WLPOA that these machines cannot drive over or dig near our pipes. Ray asked Mark to put in steel rods and rope off the area to make sure the contractors don't drive over the pipes.

Jim asked Laurie and Mark to update the board on the Right to Enter Agreement letters for the 2022 I & I project. Laurie responded that 15 property owners were sent two letters; one from Mark as Superintendent describing the project and an acknowledgment of our easement rights letter which sets out when the work will be performed, the activities to be performed, and our obligations., also included was a map of their property. (The map indicates access notes and color-coded pipes and manholes to be repaired within our easement on their property). All letters were sent by certified mail and email. Laurie reported that she is still waiting for two letters. She did have a couple phone calls on property owners who wanted a little more information but everyone is on board so far with the project. Jim has a recommendation that because the one property owner that has not responded yet, is not a property that will have much of an impact, Jim suggests we give Dave the okay to start the bidding process. Discussion occurred and the board was in agreement to give Dave at DPC the okay to start.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Laurie reported the financials. Things to note-under Plant Equipment is the emergency repair of the pump and wet well (remember the rag discussion!!!!); then under capital Plant Infrastructure is a \$23,193.75 which is ½ down on ordering the new Muffin Monster machine ; under Collection System Repairs is the second payment for the extra pump we had ordered a couple of months ago; our Audit Invoice came in so we have almost totally paid for the budgeted item; payroll had a lot of overtime costs due to snowstorms and breakdowns (as Mark described in his report). Under income; Permits are on a definite high, year to date is 6.

Delinquent Report. Laurie reported that Delinquent collections have never been the best in the 22 years she has worked for the district! State Marshal Arthur Quinn is doing an awesome job with warrants and hopes to have a pay out on Selmani by the months end...

At 3:32PM A MOTION WAS MADE BY Richard Reis, seconded by Alfred Shull to go into Executive Session pursuant to CGS Sec. 1-200(6)(B) - strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation to which the public agency is a party – Welte v. WLSL litigation. No discussion, **ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED.**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 3:45PM.

At 3:29PM A MOTION WAS MADE BY Alfred Shull, seconded by Richard Reis to go into Executive Session pursuant to CGS Sec. 1-200(6)(B) - strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims and pending litigation to which the public agency is a party – Compliance with DEEP Consent Order. No discussion, **ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 3:53PM.

OLD BUSINESS-NONE

NEW BUSINESS- Ray reported that the board had decided to increase wages for Billy, Conor and Mark after a lengthy research survey of other plants and the average pay scale. He stated the benchmark is above average. Ray sat with the employees and discussed the decision to increase the pay scale and all was well received. Ray thanked the board for their time and decision.

Laurie asked for an approval on a refund for Vita Muir, of 5 Belshyre Court for \$1258.82, for over payment. **A MOTION WAS MADE** BY Richard Reis, seconded by Alfred Shull to approve the said refund. No discussion, **ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED**

ANY OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE SAID MEETING- None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Alfred Shull, seconded by Richard Reis, to adjourn at 4:03PM. No discussion, **SO VOTED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred Shull, Clerk

Laurie Mosley, Recording Clerk

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