

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT
TRUSTEES MEETING
July 20, 2020**

Present: Bruce Sawyer, Steve Dunn, Andrew Edson, Mitch Berkowitz, Mike MacDonald and Superintendent Jim Foster. President Sawyer called meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Previous Minutes: Second draft of June 15, 2020 minutes approved with no changes. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Election of Officers:

Mike MacDonald was elected replacing Joe Murray.

Motions were made to keep Bruce Sawyer as President/Treasurer and the Superintendent as Assistant Treasurer. A motion was made to elect Mitch Berkowitz as Clerk. Votes for all three motions were unanimous.

Superintendent's Report:

1. AGM for June was 367. This was the highest we've ever recorded. We believe it was mostly due to the school watering fields and Portland Sand & Gravel.
2. Bacterial tests were absent for E-coli and total coliform.
3. One hydrant still out of service.
4. Two leaks on private were repaired. Suspected leak on GWD property still being investigated.

OLD BUSINESS:

Water Quality Complaint, 172 Mayall Rd:

Trustees discussed that this issue is completed and can be removed from the agenda.

Landfill Test Well Results

We received an email from the Town Manager in response to the letter we sent last month regarding the upward trends in contaminants. The Town has reached out to Sevee & Maher Engineers to help find a cause.

MDOT Route 100 work

Superintendent reported that we have been asked to locate our facilities along route 100. Mitch reported that he received a call from Brad Pollard regarding the replacement of water mains in that area. Mitch encouraged Brad to write a letter and deliver it so it could be read at the meeting. Brad did so and Trustees received the letter. The Town Manager was cc'd on the letter as well. Brad expressed that the route 100 north portion of the system needs to be updated and spoke of costs he's incurred due to the age of the main that delivers water to his businesses. Trustees discussed figuring out how much an upgrade would cost.

ACTION: Mitch to speak to the town Manager regarding Brad's suggestions and write a response letter to Brad. Jim is to get a measurement on the section of main that needs replacing.

Rate Case:

The public hearing was completed with only one customer in attendance. Cathy Robinson of Maine Rural Water Association (MRWA), on behalf of GWD, requested that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) grant a limited waiver of Section 2, Chapter 69 of the Commission's Rules (Determination of Fire Protection Revenues for Water Utilities) and approve an effective date of October 1, 2020 for a 52.58% increase for its ratepayers and a 54% increase in revenues for public fire protection as outlined in its filing dated May 28, 2020. The Commission declined to act upon the request until the District make a filing addressing questions and concerns raised by the waiver request. Cathy provided a draft copy of answers the PUC's questions and requested the Trustees review her answers and add any appropriate information. Trustees found Cathy's answers satisfactory as is but did make one change. The date at which time we will bring fire protection charges to full revenue requirement was changed from 10/01/2021 to 01/01/2022.

ACTION: Office Manager to relay change to Cathy.

SCADA Controls System:

Trustees and Superintendent discussed that we do not now have remote access to alarms and pump controls for better response times. We will need internet installed in the generator building to accomplish this.

Action: Superintendent to get internet to the generator building.

Sanitary Survey:

Superintendent stated that there is nothing new to report on the 3 or 4 items left to address. Mike reported that some valves were exercised during the flushing that was done this past spring and that he's working on a plan to exercise all valves every other year. Three recommendations remain without specific deadline dates. The following list remains until completed:

- Master plan update-**ACTION:** Bruce to dust off existing draft Master Plan.
- Develop and implement valve exercise program.
- Wellhead protection plan-included in the Master Plan under Source Protection. Will be included in update. Comment: Source Protection is already in the draft Master Plan. This section can be edited and made available if necessary.

North Raymond Road Project:

Water main is installed. It was pressure tested and disinfected but did not pass the coliform test. The line was flushed and retested. We are waiting for those results. A trace wire was supposed to be buried with the pipe for the purpose of locating in the future. That wire broke off during installation resulting in about 2/3 (clarification is needed on this as the superintendent and trustee McDonald had differing reports) of the newly installed main having no trace wire. There will be additional cost to us due to the contractor using an

additional 100' or so of poly pipe and because of the need to renew the service at Franks Garage. Also, the house directly across from where the Dry Mills store used to be is requesting a larger service. The contractor is working on a price for that.

PFAS Water Quality Testing:

Trustees discussed that sampling will be done on an annual basis and test results will be posted to the website. The next testing will be in March of 2021.

ACTION: Office Manager to set reminder for February 2021.

NOAA Request for Water Service:

We forwarded the preliminary design proposal from Gorrill-Palmer to NOAA along with PUC template for water main extension contracts. Any further action will be based on NOAA response. Superintendent did contact Yarmouth Water District to determine if there are any issues regarding this project, there are none.

Request for Service, Valley High Rd:

Resident has appealed U Maine Foundation's decision. We have not heard anything since. This item is complete and will be removed from the agenda unless/until it is reopened by the Valley High Rd resident.

Spring Salt Level Testing, Rt 26A:

SME requested copies of the MSDS sheets for the road treatment chemicals being used by Public Works. Jim reported that the MSDS sheets were sent to SME but that he has not heard from them.

ACTION: Superintendent to check with SME to ensure the sheets were received.

Last month the Superintendent was asked to inquire with Public Works regarding street sweeper wash down. He did speak to the director, Alec, and was told that it is not road salt that they are washing off, just dirt. They do this washing about twice per month. Trustees discussed whether there could be residual salt in the debris after winter that is being swept in the spring. Trustees decided that they would like Public Works to cease washing at the facilities at Shaker Rd for the time being until the ongoing salt study reveals information that tells us such washing is safe. They can wash down at the MDOT facility where they wash their trucks.

ACTION: Superintendent to relay that request to Alec.

Fire Department Antenna MOU:

Town Manager is to take this issue to the Town Council, they are meeting tomorrow night. Joe Murray has offered to attend the meeting and speak for us.

ACTION: Steve is to talk to Joe and let him know we'd like him to do that.

Status of Action Items From 6/15/2020 Executive Session:

This item to be handled under New Business, item 1.

Dry Mills Standpipe:

Chief Operator is putting together quotes for inspection/cleaning/maintenance for the Dry Mills tank. A call was made to check on the status of that but was not returned in time for this meeting.

ACTION: Superintendent to email Trustees with update as soon as he gets it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion/Second by Berkowitz/Dunn to enter executive session pursuant to MRSA 405 (6)(A) to discuss protected personnel matters. **Vote** to approve was unanimous. Executive session entered at 8:49 PM.

Motion/Second by MacDonald/Dunn to exit executive session. **VOTE** to approve unanimous. Executive session closed at 10:39 PM. **NOTE:** Superintendent excused from session at 9:38 PM.

Resulting actions: None

OTHER:

ACTION: Office Manager to add “Additions to the Agenda” back to the monthly agenda as number 2, right after opening the meeting and approving the minutes.

Next scheduled executive session meeting: July 27, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

There may be a meeting scheduled for August 10, 2020. That will be decided at July 27, 2020 meeting.

Next scheduled regular meeting: August 17, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 10:45PM

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

- Town sidewalk project
- Route 100 TIF
- Planning for the future/CIP programming
- G.I.S.
- Relocation of office
- Search for new water source

Respectfully submitted;
Sudiek Lester, Office Manager