

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT
TRUSTEES MEETING
January 25, 2021**

Present: Bruce Sawyer, Steve Dunn, Mitch Berkowitz, Mike MacDonald and Interim Superintendent Bill Gardner. Bruce called meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Previous Minutes: Draft two of December 21, 2020 minutes were approved with a change to one item. Action items were reviewed. Votes to approve were unanimous.

Superintendent's Report:

1. All samples taken in December came back absent.
2. Average gallons per day (AGD) was 211,000.
3. The new plow had been purchased as well as new tires for the 2016 GMC.
4. Met with Scott Robbins of Environmental Instrument Services regarding our SCADA system. Scott is doing an assessment of our system and will be giving us information for changing over to cellular.
5. We had a gasoline spill in the front parking lot at the office. We are not sure if it was a customer or just someone pulling over in our lot but the Office Manager noticed a wet spot in the lot around lunch time and it turned out to be gas. After consulting with people at the Maine Drinking Water Program (MDWP) and one of our engineers we decided to call Environmental Projects, Inc. We put out some speedy dry on the spot and they came the next morning to remove the affected tar and earth. We should seriously consider redesigning our lot to close the large cutout so that people don't find it so convenient to pull off for things other than visiting the office for water district business.
6. Will be meeting with Wright Ryan Construction to talk about the office and what we can do to upgrade/improve the space so it works better for employees and customers. Will report back next meeting.
7. The Ambrosia Development was originally going to be 14 homes with 12 of them being on public water. After meeting with the Town that has changed and they will now be drilling under the brook to bring water to the two homes on the end.
8. The Weather Service project may not happen this year. They are waiting for a go ahead from upper management so the survey hasn't even been done yet.
9. After walking the area of the sidewalk project there are a few services that will have to be moved so that we don't have service box tops in the tar sidewalk. This is work we can do ourselves.
10. We have been getting complaints of sand in faucets at Eastfield. We did some flushing during the warm spell. We will be able to do more robust flushing in the spring.
11. The first candidate for the water operator position was interviewed today. A second candidate will be interviewed Wednesday.
12. After a Trustee inquired, we checked with MDWP regarding testing for COVID-19 in water as it was recently found in wastewater. There is no testing requirements at this time. Our monthly Coliform test would catch it if there was a problem.

ACTION: None

Trustee Reports:

Trustee MacDonald reported that we will need to cut a slice out of that 1914 main, discussed last month under NOAA Request for Service, so that it can be evaluated to see if cleaning and lining is an option.

Trustee MacDonald also reported the discussion the Town Council had regarding improvements on Yarmouth Rd. We should prepare for getting rid of the short portion of 6" main and replacing it with 12" during their construction project. Trustees discussed details about type of pipe and cost of project.

ACTION: Mike to speak to Doug Reynolds of Gorrill-Palmer regarding type of pipe

Trustee MacDonald reported that he spoke to Eric Gagnon, new Superintendent at Yarmouth Water District. Their long time Superintendent also recently retired. Eric expressed that they would be happy to help us anyway they can. He also gave Mike a contact name and number to a woman at Pineland that he could talk to. Mike wants to find out what her and Jim discussed regarding the water service for the weather service. He also has called and left another message for the New Gloucester Town Manager but has not gotten a call back.

ACTION: Mike to contact Pineland.

OLD BUSINESS:**Landfill Test Well Results:**

Still waiting to hear.

ACTION: None

MDOT Route 100 Work:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None

NOAA Request for Service:

Discussed under 'Trustee Reports'.

ACTION: None

Dry Mills Standpipe:

All work planned will be started in the Spring.

ACTION: None

Master Plan:

The document is ready to post to the website.

ACTION: Office Manager to post Master Plan to website.

Bypass Solar Farm:

Mike returned an email to VHB Engineers regarding test wells located within the area of their project but the woman who had originally sent the email was no longer there. He has not heard back from anyone new.

ACTION: None

81 Shaker Rd:

After the gas leak at the office parking lot Trustees discussed that the idea of offering land for ball fields to the Town is not such a good idea. Steve reported that he spoke to Heath Emery and the Emery's say they have never hayed that field. Steve also found out that the Chipman's may not have ever purchased the piece of land their stand is on as we originally thought.

ACTION: Bill to find out if Chipman's has purchased their piece or not.

NEW BUSINESS:

MDOT Highway Preservation Paving Project Rt 115 Gray

Discussed under 'Trustee Reports'.

Personnel:

Motion/Second by Berkowitz/MacDonald to go into executive session per MRSA 405 (A) at 7:54 pm. Vote to approve was unanimous. Office Manager was dismissed.

Motion/Second by Berkowitz/Dunn to come out of executive session at 9:00 pm. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Motion/Second by Berkowitz/Dunn As the Interim Superintendent it was the intent of the full Board to provide Bill with all of the authority and responsibilities which are given to the Superintendent and to have the Interim work with each employee team member to begin the detailed process of updating all of the position descriptions of each employee with the understanding that all personnel report to and keep the Superintendent fully informed of their activities on a consistent basis. Vote to approve was unanimous.

OTHER:

Next scheduled regular meeting: February 22, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Adjournment: **Motion/Second** by Dunn/MacDonald at 9:02 pm. Vote to approve was unanimous.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

- Town sidewalk project
- Route 100 TIF (South)
- Planning for the future/CIP programming
- G.I.S.
- Search for new water source

Respectfully submitted,

Sudiek Lester, Office Manager