

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT
TRUSTEES MEETING
July 26, 2021**

Present: Bruce Sawyer, Mike MacDonald, Mitch Berkowitz, Joe Murray and Superintendent Bill Gardner. Bruce called meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Spring Meadows Condominium Association:

The executive board of Spring Meadows Condominium Association was present to appeal to the Trustees regarding a high water bill received. The irrigation service for Spring Meadows Condo's was turned on in June of 2019. In February of 2021 Gray Water District became aware that the service was on but never billed. The office manager called the builder of the Condo's, Greg Rand, and discussed the need for a customer on file and catch-up billing. Greg stated that there is a Condo association and that his office is keeping their books. He said he would fill out an application for water service on their behalf. An application was sent to Mr. Rand at least twice but a completed application was never received here at the office. In June of 2021, after not receiving a completed application or a returned call from Mr. Rand, GWD shut the irrigation water service off for no customer on file. Within a day Greg Rand called and said he didn't realize the account wasn't being billed for the past two years, he thought I was just asking to update the account with an application from the association. I let him know that there was a significant amount of water used over the prior two years and that the bill will have to be paid. After discussion with the Superintendent, it was agreed that we would accept \$3000.00 to turn the water back on and that a payment arrangement could be made for the remaining \$4635.58. Greg said he would discuss everything with the Condo Association and get back to me. Brad and the rest of the Board are asking for help with this bill as it is a huge burden on their finances. They have residents that have just moved in and so did not contribute to the past water usage and folks who did contribute who have moved away. Trustees let them know that we have an obligation to collect water bills from all customer but that we are willing to enter into an extended payment arrangement to help ease the burden of paying for such a high bill. The guests left the meeting and Trustees discussed details of a payment arrangement.

Motion/Second by Berkowitz/Murray to first get the reading for August first billing (July usage) to determine what one month usage is for them. Then divide the past usage billing by 18 months and add that amount to the monthly bill to be billed consecutively until the balance is paid.

ACTION: Office Manager to draft a letter to the Condo Board offering to let them make payments over an 18-month period.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion/Second by Berkowitz/Murray to approve June minutes. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Average gallons per day (AGD) for pumps 1&2 was 316,500. Pump 3 average was 195,500. Monthly bacteria samples were absent.

2. The new SCADA system was installed on June 7th at 80 Shaker Rd and the Weeks Hill tank. Once work is complete at the Dry Mills tank the new system will be brought online there as well.
3. PFA's: The Maine Drinking Water Program (MDWP) is putting together a pamphlet to help water systems navigate the new rules regarding testing and treatment. Fortunately, our tests have come back fine so far but we should be prepared to deal with any positive tests that may come eventually.
4. West Gray Rd main break repair has been completed. It was a costly repair.
5. We have two proposals for surveying for the Turnpike crossing. One is significantly less than the other but it will take longer to complete. Trustees and Superintendent decided to go with less expensive bid as we are still working on a funding source for the construction work.
Motion/Second by Murray/Berkowitz to proceed with Owen Haskell Inc. proposal.
6. The hydrant located outside the Turnpike Authority garage on Route 26A was hit by a drunk driver last week. The break-away worked as designed and there was no water loss. The insurance company of the motorist has already contacted us. We will be repairing the hydrant and sending them the bill.
7. We have not yet fixed the leak at the monument because the contractor doing the sidewalk project has left the job for now. We have to wait for them to commence work again so that we can make that repair at the same time as their work in that specific area.

OLD BUSINESS:

Landfill Test Well Results:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None

NOAA Request for Service:

Office Manager is working on DUNS number and getting registered on the SAM website so federal funding arrangements can be finalized.

ACTION: None

Dry Mills Standpipe:

Superintendent Gardner reported about the work that has been done at the Dry Mills tank. Sandblasting was completed by Central Maine Industrial Painting (CMIP) after which welding repairs were made by Phoenix Welding. Then CMIP did the epoxy coating which cured for 7 days. We then filled the tank and added chlorine and let it sit for a couple days. A physical gauge and sample port were installed. A bubbler line was installed to hinder ice formation and help prevent ice damage to the inside of the tank. A lot of time was spent working on installing our electronic valve from Cla-Val, new piping and gate valve to the 10" line. Scada is all hooked up and pressure switch will be calibrated tomorrow. Our new Operator John has put in a lot of time and effort and done an excellent job putting all this together. We are expecting the entire project cost to come in just under \$100,000.

ACTION: None

Bypass Solar Farm:

The project is underway. We have found one test well in the area but it is not in the way of the project.

ACTION: Remove from agenda.

MDOT Highway Preservation Paving Project Rt 115 Gray

Allstate Construction is working on project. They changed their plan which caused us to have to go back and remark. It was not easy to locate where they wanted to dig due to lack of records.

ACTION: None.

Stillwater Pines Subdivision (Woodcock Dr):

The tap & sleeve, C909 composite pipe, and chlorine tap were installed on 6/24. We are now on standby until the rest of the project is approved.

ACTION: None

Terms & Conditions: update document:

Trustees and Superintendent reviewed the draft document and made changes.

ACTION: Office Manager to incorporate changes to create final document with Kate Yeattes of MRWA.

SCADA:

The new SCADA system is up and running and working perfectly.

ACTION: None

TIF-Town Project Discussions:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None.

Other projects that may be "shovel worthy" and can be coordinated with the Town and their financing under future fed/state "Cares Act", A.R.P. Grant:

We were not successful in our bid for Federal funding through Senator Kings office.

ACTION: Office Manager to consolidate these items on the next agenda into one item called 'Federal Projects and Funding'.

Town Council Workshop w/ MDOT & GWD Re: 2021 Projects:

Nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

L.D. 129 PFA's:

We are waiting for information from Sevee & Maher and the Maine Drinking Water Program regarding testing requirements.

Policy for remote participation at meetings:

If we want to be able to have Trustees attend meetings remotely, a policy must be put in place. We would also have to make accommodations to allow the public to attend remotely as well. Trustees determined that having a quorum is rarely a problem and we have good flexibility to reschedule if necessary. It was decided to continue with having in person meetings only.

Personnel Policy:

Trustee MacDonald noted that work hours listed in the Personnel Policy need to be updated to reflect the full range of times we are working. Motion/Second by MacDonald/Berkowitz to change SECTION 9 A. to read 7:30 AM to 5:00PM.
Action: Office Manager to make above change and notify all employees via email to make pen and ink changes to their personal copies.

OTHER:

Next scheduled regular meeting: Aug 30, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Adjournment: Motion/Second by MacDonald/Murray to adjourn at 9:30 pm. Vote to approve was unanimous.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sudiek Lester, Office Manager