

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT
TRUSTEES MEETING
August 15, 2022
Location: 80 Shaker Rd**

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

Superintendent's Report:

1. Average gallons per day (AGD) for pumps 1&2 was 345,452. AGD for Pump 3 was 118,612. Both pumps were run for 31 days. for an average of 118,612.
2. Monthly samples for June were absent of bacteria.
3. SCADA at Pump Station 3 is now fully operational. All pumps are connected and Pump 3 now turns on and off at the same time as pumps 1 & 2.
4. On July 26th we tried to install a meter pit for 296A Shaker (Wallace Ave). We found that the service box is located in the driveway for 300 Shaker. We do not want to install a meter pit in the neighbor's driveway so we ended up updating the service box and installing the meter inside the home. In the future when we replace main on Shaker Road, we will install a piece of main on Wallace Ave and move those three services onto the new pipe.
5. We scheduled a main tap on Colley Hill for a new construction. We arrived with parts to complete a tap on 6" main because our GIS says the main there is 6". We dug up quite a bit of the area and found that the main is actually 2 1/4". We didn't have the parts for that size main so we had to abandon the job for the day. The part we need has to be manufactured in Washington State and we're not expecting it to arrive before August 26th.
6. On August 9th we attended a workshop meeting with the Town of Gray regarding the Main St project. We let them know that we will be raising main line valves to grade and install new boxes. We will also move any services that are on the 6" dead end main onto the 16". Then we will be able to shut down and abandon that old piece of main.
7. All employees attended the Maine Water Utilities Association (MWUA) Summer Outing. It was at the Cumberland Fairgrounds this year and the training was about vacuum excavating. We did some networking and enjoyed time with our peers.
8. Bean Data is still working on the new website. We got a sneak peek earlier today and it looks good. Mr. Bean is asking for material to add. We will be working with him later this week.

Vacant Trustee Position:

The vacant Trustee position has been filled by a write-in candidate, John Roy. John is a long-time resident of Gray and a customer.

ACTION: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Landfill Test Well Results:

We still have not received a response from the Town after sending them another letter on May 24th. Superintendent Gardner has decided to seek guidance from the Maine Drinking Water Program (MDWP). He summarized data from the most recent Water Quality Monitoring Report from the closed Gray Municipal Landfill along with current PFAS test results. This data along with a statement about all the letters we've written over the years with little to no response was forwarded to our contact at the DWP.

ACTION: Superintendent Gardner to report back when he hears from them.

NOAA Request for Service:

We had a zoom meeting with NOAA and Doug Reynolds of Gorrill-Palmer (GPE). Doug reported to them the less than satisfactory results from the latest flow test of 13 PSI. He also reported that the low amount of use they will have will cause the water in that very long stretch of main to sit stagnant. It would have to be flushed multiple times per month to meet water quality standards. The conclusion is that we are not going to be able to serve them. Doug is to give them a final detailed report when he returns from vacation.

ACTION: None

TIF-Town Project Discussions:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None

Road Opening Permits:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None.

Legislative Updates:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None

Turnpike Crossing / West Gray Rd Main Replacement Projects:

At the end of last month, we became aware that we are included in the 176 projects that will be funded by hundreds of millions of dollars that Senator Susan Collins has secured for Maine. Superintendent Gardner has since spoken to his contact at the Senators office and found out that the bill still needs to be approved by the House and Senate which could happen this fall but may also be put off until February. It will then go to committee and we will have to go through a process similar to our original application.

ACTION: Superintendent to report back when he has updates.

PFAS:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None.

Purchasing Policy:

The Board reviewed draft #2 of the policy. Changes were made to two items. One item remains to be clarified from draft one. Trustees and Superintendent discussed.

ACTION: Trustee Murray to contact Mitch to clarify remaining item and send out draft #3 for review.

Storm Water & Spill Prevention Plans:

Storm a spill plan review has been completed for 2021. The review generated a new item as detailed below.

Town Garage MOU

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was developed in conjunction with Public Works garage project includes a requirement for GWD to regularly sample the outflow for the garage oil/water separators. This sampling program has not been implemented yet. Superintendent Gardner was asked to familiarize himself with the document/policy then make arrangements with the Public Works Director about starting the sampling program. The MOU also prohibits any heavy washing at the Public Works site. Previous PW Director made arrangements to do heavy washing at the MDOT garage on Portland Road.

Superintendent Gardner previously noted that the MDOT has been using a hydrant for truck washing in violation of our Terms and Conditions and that problem needs to be corrected. He has contacted MDOT about installing a service for washing so they can stop using the hydrant. That was months ago and he hasn't heard back. He also suggested, if MDOT doesn't want the Town using their new wash bay, that the Town could install a new wash bay at their South Gray Fire Station that is well out of our wellhead protection zone.

ACTION: Superintendent Gardner to meet with Public Works Director Dodd. Trustee MacDonald to draft a letter explaining why we need to stop all non-fire use of hydrants in the system.

Sodium Silicate Treatment:

Superintendent Gardner is still working on the response to DWP. He has done PH samples and samples for a corrosivity index report that Sevee & Mahar Engineers (SME) will put together for us to submit to the DWP.

ACTION: Superintendent will submit the requested info as soon as it's ready.

MWUA Grant Writing Assistance:

Trustee Murray reported that he, Trustee MacDonald and Superintendent Gardner met to discuss projects that could be included in an application for funds. The projects are a line up the bypass to create a loop, replacement of very old main on Lewiston Road, new water sources & a new tank on Libby Hill. Trustee Murray suggests that we go to them with all four projects and see which they think fits best with the grant writing they're offering. We already have a rough scope and cost estimate on the Lewiston Rd and the bypass line, we need the same for the water tank project. Water source project will be deferred pending further information on a potential new source.

ACTION: Superintendent to contact Gorrill and Palmer for an updated estimate on the Libby Hill tank

NEW BUSINESS:

Potential Yarmouth Water Source:

Superintendent Gardner and Trustee MacDonald recently met with the Superintendent and one Trustee of Yarmouth Water District. One of the things they talked about was a water source that YWD owns. They have not developed the site because they have been concentrating on another site that is closer to their infrastructure. They are willing to either grant us an easement to develop it ourselves or we could develop it together, creating an interconnect for emergencies. There is a lot to consider including energy costs and elevation but it could be a good supplemental well.

ACTION: Superintendent Gardner to continue discussing this with YWD.

State Land Water Source:

Trustees and Superintendent discussed the water source that is owned by the state and used by the fish hatchery on Weymouth Rd. We have a long history with it and they've never been very receptive to our requests to explore it as a public source. In the past they've been willing to let us do testing with no commitment on their part. If things change with the hatchery, it could be an excellent source to develop.

ACTION: None

Capital reserve fund

Trustee Murray inquired about the capital reserve fund that was approved through our 2020 rate case. He brought up that there is a report we are supposed to submit with our annual report to the Maine Public Utilities Commission (MPUC), the System Infrastructure Needs Assessment. The Office Manager researched and found the original report we submitted with our rate case. We will submit an updated report with our 2022 PUC report in the Spring.

OTHER:

Next scheduled regular meeting: September 19, 2022 @ 6:00 PM.

Adjournment: 8:15 pm.

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