

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT  
TRUSTEES MEETING  
March 18, 2024  
Location: 80 Shaker Rd**

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

**Superintendent's Report:**

1. Average gallons per day (AGD) for pumps 1&2 was 365,485. AGD for Pump 3 was 77,974. Pump 3 was run 3 days per week.
2. Monthly samples for February were absent of bacteria.
3. Our lead operator attended confined space training.
4. 3/7 Had a meeting with Enercon regarding using their West Gray Rd location as a staging area for our main replacement project. They are allowing us to use their property and are interested in extending the main in that area as they own more frontage there. We will investigate pricing for that.
5. 3/11 After the storm and flooding Public Works went out to do ditching on Yarmouth Rd and Partridge Ln. They hit some of our valves and drove into a hydrant. We had EJP come down to install a repair kit. The entire job was a little over \$1000. We will bill the Town for that.
6. 3/13 We received the approval for the bond needed for the turnpike project.
7. 3/14 we pressurized the new main under the Turnpike. We also had our annual VAS meeting with EJP. We signed on for another year with the program.
8. The guys continued with changing out meters. We now have all the high users equipped with the new style meters. They are also doing leak detection as time allows.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Landfill Test Well Results:**

We have finally received the 2022 report for the landfill. The 2023 report should be coming in April.

**ACTION:** Ask former Trustee, Steve Dunn to review for us.

**Turnpike Crossing / West Gray Rd Main Replacement Projects:**

On March 11<sup>th</sup> we received the award letter for the grant. We will be chlorinating and pressure testing tomorrow. Also tomorrow, Thirsty Turf will begin laying temporary main on West Gray Rd.

**ACTION:** None

**Gerald's Way Main Extension:**

Scott Dugas says he will start in a couple weeks.

**ACTION:** None.

**LD1864 (formerly LD2003):**

Trustee MacDonald is working on a letter to our representatives.

**ACTION:** None

**Meadowview II:**

Met with Storey Brothers about this job on March 13<sup>th</sup>. We are still planning to do it in spring.

**ACTION:** None

**Lewiston Rd Project:**

Superintendent Gardner reported that getting funding for this project is his main focus right now.

**ACTION:**

**Antenna MOU Dry Mills Standpipe:**

Waiting for a new draft from the Town.

**ACTION:** None.

**FEMA Grant (BRICS):**

Superintendent Gardner reported that our grant application is in review.

**ACTION:** None

**2024 Bond:**

Superintendent Gardner reported that we received approval from the bond bank on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**ACTION:** None

**Rate Increase:**

There is a meeting scheduled with Cathy Robinson on Monday.

**ACTION:** None

**6 North Raymond Road:**

Although MDOT told us we could not open the road there, the owner of the property talked to someone else at DOT who said we could. After the two engineers from DOT had a conversation, it was decided that their compact area ends before 6 N Raymond and so we can open the road and do a service for him. We will create an estimate for the homeowner and plan to get started when the asphalt plants open.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Water Purchase Request:**

Superintendent Gardner reported he was approached by a company that transports and sells water to the public. They would like to purchase water from us. This would be

possible but would require a new service at the road to fill large transport trucks. This could become a good source of revenue for the District but a detailed contract agreement would have to be in place before any work is initiated or water sold.

**Renewal of CD:**

The TIF funds we received from the Town last year were put into a 12-month CD. That CD is due next month. Trustees discussed rates and terms. Superintendent mentioned that some of that money could be used to replace the 10" main on Yarmouth Rd.

**ACTION:** Office Manager to obtain a schedule of current rates and forward them to Trustees.

**New Employee Hire:**

The Superintendents reports that his efforts to acquire grant funding and the workload generated by the resulting projects together with the normal regulatory demands leave no time to be responsive to the day-to-day demands of District operations. The need for an additional Water Operator position to handle this work has become imperative.

**Motion/Second** by Murray/MacDonald to authorize the Superintendent to recruit and hire an additional Water Operator on probationary basis subject to having or acquiring license sufficient to be assigned on-call duty. Vote to approve was unanimous.

**Executive Session:**

**Motion/Second** by Berkowitz/MacDonald to go into executive session at 6:56 pm per MRSA405(6)(A) to discuss personnel issues. Vote to approve was unanimous.

**Motion/Second** by Murray/MacDonald to come out of executive session at 8:44 pm.

**Motion/Second** by Murray/MacDonald to authorize merit increases as recommended by the Superintendent and to convert Superintendent position to straight salaried position with compensation as discussed during executive session. Vote to approve was unanimous.

**OTHER:**

**Next scheduled regular meeting:** April 22, 2024 @ 6:00 PM.

**OUTSTANDING ITEMS:**

- Route 100 TIF (South)
- Planning for the future/CIP programming
- G.I.S.
- Search for new water source
- Pineland System
- Front fencing/parking
- TIF-Town Project Discussions
- 10" Main on Yarmouth Rd

- Woodcock Dr. Phase II
- State Land Water Source (fish hatchery)
- Revision Solar
- Injection/treatment facility
- Grover Pit Water Service
- Deer Brook Extension
- Fish Hatchery Main Ext.
- Shaker Rd Main Replacement Project

Respectfully submitted,

Sudiek Lester, Office Manager