

August 19, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees of the Auburn Water District was held at the Auburn City Hall in the Community Room on August 19, 2020 at 4:00pm.

Members present: Dan Bilodeau, Robert Cavanagh, K. C. Geiger, Stephen Milks, President and Mayor's Representative, Jason Pawlina, Mary Sylvester and Andrew Titus, Treasurer. Also present: Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, Michael Broadbent, Assistant Superintendent and Tanya Dunn, Finance Manager.

OPEN SESSION – DISCUSSION – LAWPC COMMISSIONER APPLICANTS

Two applications were received and both were interviewed for the vacant LAWPC seat, Pam Rousseau and Evan Cyr.

On motion of Mary Sylvester, seconded by Jason Pawlina, it was unanimously voted: **To move into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) to discuss a personnel matter – LAWPC Commissioner Applicants.**

On motion of Mary Sylvester, seconded by Andrew Titus, it was unanimously voted: **To appoint Evan Cyr as the Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commissioner.**

Please extend appreciation to Pam Rousseau for her application and encourage her to stay involved in the community.

On motion of Andrew Titus, seconded by Mary Sylvester, it was unanimously voted: **To move into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E) for discussion of a legal matter.**

POTENTIAL BOARD ACTION FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEM #4 –

On motion of Mary Sylvester, seconded by Andrew Titus, it was unanimously voted: **To hire legal counsel to write a Code of Ethics for the Auburn Water District Trustees and Superintendent.** Stephen Milks will contact counsel.

APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of July 22, 2020 –

On motion of K.C. Geiger, seconded by Andrew Titus, it was unanimously voted: **To accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting.**

FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE –

Water gallons sold is down 1.04% year to date which results in approximately \$43,000 below anticipated revenues with the rate increase. Expenses overall are favorable \$20,000. Cash on hand at the end of July was at \$1,247,821.83. The 120 day past due receivables continue to climb and we continue to place more liens. There has been no word from the PUC regarding reinstatement of disconnections for non-payment.

There has been consideration of moving to monthly billing for all customers. More information will be available at the September meeting.

RATIFY PAYMENT OF BILLS –

On motion of Robert Cavanagh, seconded by Mary Sylvester it was unanimously voted: **To ratify payment of bills in the amount of \$316,123.79 as shown on the printout dated July 1, 2020 – July 31, 2020.**

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Dan Bilodeau would like to resolve the cost apportionment discussions with Lewiston before the 2021 budget is complete.

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION – As no one from the public was in attendance, the Open Session was closed.

ACTIVITY REPORT – Crews have been lowering and raising service boxes on Poland Road before the paving takes place. Center Street, from Bowdoin to Turner, has been added to the City's paving list for this summer and we must lower and then raise the service boxes in that area. Crews have been replacing the older style hydrants when they break as parts are unavailable for the old Metropolitans.

NEW BUSINESS

TASK FORCE REPORT- RECOMMENDATIONS OF PROCESS FOR REVIEW AND UPDATE OF BY-LAWS FOR THE PROTECTION OF LAKE AUBURN – The City of Auburn is looking to conduct a comprehensive study involving the ecological, environmental, regulatory and economic impacts of drinking water costs in Auburn.

Stephen Milks would like to put the review of the by-laws on hold until this study is complete which would suspend the task force until the results of the City's study is released. Both the City Council and the District will appoint two members to the RFP process. Mary Sylvester and Jason Pawlina will represent the District in the RFP process with the City Council appointees.

CREATION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE BYLAWS FOR THE PROTECTION OF LAKE AUBURN- This committee is temporarily postponed pending results of the City of Auburn's Cost of Water Service Study.

REPORT ON MEETING WITH LEWISTON OFFICIALS REGARDING COST APPORTIONMENT- Andrew Titus and Sid Hazelton met with Lewiston officials regarding cost apportionment. Lewiston staff suggested a letter outlining the specific requests be submitted to the Lewiston City Council which would generate an agenda item for the Council.

Sid will prepare documentation on shared costs.

CITY OF AUBURN 8/17 COUNCIL WORKSHOP ON FUNDING A COST OF WATER SERVICE STUDY- The Auburn City Council has requested two District Trustees join two City Councilors in drafting an RFP for a comprehensive study cost of water service, Mary Sylvester and Jason Pawlina volunteered.

WATER QUALITY UPDATE – Water quality is fantastic for this time of year due to the Alum treatment. The lab has been testing water quality at the outlet beach weekly which was requested by the City.

A Bates College student, Lars Gunderson, wrote a thesis on Lake Auburn. The Board would like to invite Lars to give a 20-minute presentation on his work at the September meeting. Included in the agenda packet is an article from CEI on algae blooms very similar to what Lake Auburn has experienced in the past.

PROJECT UPDATE – Holly and Josslyn Street main replacements are complete. Fern Street is prepped and will begin soon. Rochelle and Winter Street will begin in the next few weeks. The City is moving forward with reconstructing Library Avenue and a portion of Pleasant Street.

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On motion of K.C. Geiger, seconded by Jason Pawlina it was voted 6 in favor, 1 abstention: **To replace the sections of water main where the road work is being done on Library Avenue and Pleasant Street.**

It was request that we put the Project Updates with the Activity Report on future agendas.

OLD BUSINESS –

PIPE REPLACEMENT STRATEGY AND OPTIONS FOR FINANCING –

On motion of Mary Sylvester, seconded by Andrew Titus, it was voted 6 in favor, 1 opposed: **To have Bob Cavanagh, K.C. Geiger, Stephen Milks and Andrew Titus meet with Sid on options and report back to the full Board.**

TRUSTEE OPEN SESSION

As no Trustee spoke, the Trustee Open Session was closed.

On motion of Mary Sylvester, seconded by Jason Pawlina it was unanimously voted: **To adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted,



Tanya Dunn

Approved: September 16, 2020

A true record:

Attest: _____



Clerk