

September 16, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees of the Auburn Water District was held at the Pettingill Park Senior Community Center on Wednesday, September 16, 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.

PRESENTATION FROM LARS GUNDERSEN – Lars Gundersen, recent graduate of Bates College, gave a power point presentation on his thesis, The Origins and Dynamics of Phosphorus in Maine's Lake Auburn Watershed in the Spring of 2020. There were several members of the public in attendance.

Members of the public left after the presentation.

APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of August 19, 2020 –

On a motion of K.C. Geiger, seconded by Robert Cavanaugh, the motion **passed** unanimously: **To accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting.**

FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE – provided by Tanya Dunn, Finance Manager

Water sales are up 2.5% compared to August 2019. Revenues are on track with the rate increase. It was noted that the UV plant had a few unexpected expenses this year so that line item is up but overall other line items are below budget. Cash on hand at the end of August was \$1,486,530.85. There are bond payments due this month so that will impact the cash on hand in September. 120 day past dues continue to climb and we continue to place more liens. The PUC met and passed the reinstatement of disconnects effective 11/1/20. The District is prepared to implement changes as required. It was decided **not** to move forward with monthly billing for all customers at this time due to the increased printing and mailing costs. The District moved from a web hosted software to purchasing the software resulting in savings of approximately \$25,000.00 over 5 years. There will be a draft copy of the 2021 Budget for the next meeting.

It was suggested to report the cost shared expense items in a group of their own. Tanya to work on something for next meeting.

RATIFY PAYMENT OF BILLS –

On a motion of Robert Cavanagh, seconded by K. C. Geiger, the motion **passed** with 6 in favor and 1 opposed: **To ratify payment of bills in the amount of \$162,799.76 as shown on the printout dated August 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020.**

OPEN SESSION- No one from the public present at this time. There was discussion regarding a piece of old wooden water main brought in by Sid Hazelton, Superintendent. It was found while working on Spring St and it is believed to date back to the 1870's.

ACTIVITY REPORT / PROJECT UPDATE – provided by Mike Broadbent, Assistant Superintendent. Holly, Josslyn and Fern Water Main replacements have been completed. With the

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Mary Sylvester encouraged that a thorough analysis be completed before moving forward. Mary volunteered to work on such analysis. Andrew Titus, Treasurer offered to work with Mary on the study showing pros and cons and any recommendations.

On a motion by Andrew Titus, Treasurer, seconded by Dan Bilodeau, the motion **passed** with 5 in favor and 2 opposed: **A second friendly amendment that a study be done showing pros and cons to changes to the LWD Cost Apportionment agreements.**

Andrew Titus, Treasurer called the question – The motion made by Dan Bilodeau, seconded by Jason Pawlina with friendly amendments **passed** with 5 in favor and 2 opposed: **That a study be done on pros and cons, a written proposal and suggested letter in regards to cost apportion on all future services with Lewiston be presented and approved by the Trustees of the Auburn Water District before being sent to the City of Lewiston.**

CITY OF AUBURN COST OF WATER SERVICE STUDY: UPDATE – Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, stated the Auburn City Council did meet and assigned two members to a committee to look into a possible water service study. Jason Pawlina stated a meeting was in the works but no date had been set at this time. Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, presented his report stating his thoughts for an open and fair process in developing this RFP.

TRUSTEE OPEN SESSION

Dan Bilodeau believes we should tune in our rate payers that we are looking at cost apportionment. Now may not be the time but possibly a future agenda item.

Jason Pawlina suggested presenting a time line for upcoming meetings/workshops to include goals and upcoming 2021 Budget.

Mary Sylvester spoke on her experience as President with goals and timeline she had from the previous year noting Superintendent Review and strategic planning of works in progress.

Steve Milks, as suggested by Dan Bilodeau, would like to schedule a workshop to discuss mandatory items that need to be discussed over the next 6 months.

On a motion of Dan Bilodeau, seconded by Jason Pawlina, motion **passed** unanimously: **To adjourn.**

Meeting adjourned on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 6:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Cass, Accounting Clerk

Approved: October 21, 2020

A true record:

Attest: _____

Clerk