

January 19, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees of the Auburn Sewerage District was held via Zoom on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 4:00PM.

Members present: Robert Cavanagh, Charles Sheehan, Stephen Ness (President), Andrew Titus, Raymond Fortier (Treasurer) and Stephen Milks (Mayor's Representative). Also present: Michael Broadbent, Assistant Superintendent and Tanya Dunn, Finance Manager.

Absent: Sid Hazelton, Superintendent  
Shawn MacDonald

On motion of Robert Cavanagh, seconded by Raymond Fortier, it was unanimously voted: **To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 15, 2020.**

On motion of Robert Cavanagh, seconded by Stephen Ness, it was unanimously voted: **To approve the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting of December 16, 2020.**

On motion of Robert Cavanagh, seconded by Stephen Milks it was unanimously voted: **To approve the minutes of the Public Hearing of December 16, 2020.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Gallons sold is down 6% from 2019. Surcharges are up. Overall revenues are \$33,000 below budget. The year end cash on hand is at \$1.5million. Overall, the budget at year end is \$20,000 in the black. The year end will be finalized once the audit has been completed.

Trustee Andrew Titus questioned the low gallons and wondered if it could be due to business closings during the pandemic. Tanya, Finance Manager, attributed some of it to conservation and the sewer billing break that is given during the summer quarters.

#### **RATIFY PAYMENT OF BILLS**

On motion of Robert Cavanagh, seconded by Raymond Fortier, it was unanimously voted: **To ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$ 257,817.63 dated December 1, 2020-December 31, 2020.**

**OPEN SESSION** - K.C.Geiger, Water District Trustee, was in attendance.

**ACTIVITY REPORT** – The District has 30 miles of x-country lines. Every 10 years or so we try to clear them of brush and obstructions that would prevent servicing of the lines. There has been a build up of sand in the main on Newbury St. There has been a collapse where Newbury St. meets Main St. This issue is to be addressed this summer.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**PROJECT UPDATES** - It has been determined that it would be in the best interest of the District to replace the existing Bradman St. pump station. The YMCA is receptive to the District placing the station on their property. Trustee Robert Cavanagh complimented the District on the work that was completed on the Merrow Rd. station upgrade. The station encroached on FutureGuard property by about 20'. There was no property pin and they are working with us to negotiate an easement agreement.

**2021 POTENTIAL RATE INCREASE FOR CAPITAL RESERVE -**

Superintendent Hazelton phased in a rate increase to pay for the storage tank. Attorney Jim Pross reviewed our Charter. We cannot raise our rates to fund future long-term projects. We will hold out to see what kinds of bonds may be available in the future through stimulus funding.

**LAWPCA APPORTIONMENT & FINANCIALS** –There will be an adjustment in our favor once their audit has been completed.

**COVID PANDEMIC UPDATE** – There has been a push to move utility workers up on the priority list for vaccinations. The next phase is in mid-March. In the meantime we are following all protocols.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**LAWPCA UPDATES** – The Apportionment Study by CDM Smith should be finalized by February. LAWPCA will have an opportunity for feedback. Trustee Andrew Titus wants to be assured that the District would have some say into the apportionment ruling for the surge tank. Assistant Superintendent Mike Broadbent assured the Trustees that it would be an unbiased study.

Lewiston is meeting with Sabattus to discuss the potential of accepting their sanitary sewerage for transport to LAWPCA. They are in the preliminary discussion phase. This would have an effect on their apportionment especially when the surge tank is installed.

On motion of Raymond Fortier, seconded by Robert Cavanagh, it was unanimously voted: **To adjourn**

Approved: February 16, 2021

A true record:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk