

February 16, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees of the Auburn Water District was held at the Senior Community Center at Pettengill Park, on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 4:00 pm.

Special Note: Meeting held at the Senior Community Center to allow Trustees to attend 6:00PM City of Auburn Staff to present an overview and public discussion of proposed changes to the Watershed zoning ordinance.

Members present: Robert Cavanagh, K. C. Geiger, Andrew Titus (Treasurer) and Stephen Milks (President and Mayor's Representative) and Dan Bilodeau

Absent: Jason Pawlina and Kevin Arel

Also present: Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, Michael Broadbent, Assistant Superintendent and Tanya Dunn, Finance Manager.

On a motion by Andrew Titus (Treasurer), seconded by K. C. Geiger, the motion **passed** unanimously: **To enter into Executive Session for personnel issue in accordance with 1 M.S.R.A. § 405 (6) (A).**

Staff in attendance, left meeting room for executive session.

Stephen Milks (President) brought meeting back to open session.

On a motion by Andrew Titus (Treasurer), seconded by Dan Bilodeau, the motion **passed** unanimously: **To enter into Executive Session regarding negotiations of potential land transaction in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 05(6)(C).**

Stephen Milks (President) brought meeting back to open session.

APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING of January 19, 2022 –

On a motion by K. C. Geiger, seconded by Bob Cavanagh, the motion **passed** unanimously: **To accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 19, 2022.**

FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE –Tanya Dunn, Finance Manager

Gallons sold are down 4% compared to January of last year. Expenses are over budget - Payroll over due to overtime on main breaks and benefits over due to the timing of health insurance invoicing. Receivables are holding steady. Cash on hand at the end of January was \$1,985,418.05. The general resolution bond application was submitted last week. We should hear from the Bond Bank on March 16, 2022.

Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, added that the Bond council stated that there needs to be a public advertisement in place 7 days prior to a vote to take out a bond. It is a procedural thing and should not hold up the application. He stated an ad would be placed sometime this month and a formal Trustee vote to take out bond to be done at the March Trustee meeting.

RATIFY PAYMENT OF BILLS –

On a motion by Bob Cavanagh, seconded by K. C. Geiger, the motion **passed** unanimously: **To ratify payment of bills in the amount of \$323,859.36 as shown on the printout dated January 1, 2022 – January 31, 2022.**

OPEN SESSION – No one from the public was in attendance. Open session was closed.

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ACTIVITY REPORT/PROJECT UPDATE – provided by Mike Broadbent, Assistant Superintendent.

There were a number of main breaks in January and that trend has continued into February. The District monitors temperatures closely and January was colder than average. The frost level has pushed down to 4-5 feet in some areas. As the frost depth increases, we activate bleeders to protect against freeze up. The Group 1 and Group 2 Bleeders have been activated. Other activity is standard for this time of year such as snow removal, winter hydrant maintenance, etc.

EPA has proposed revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule. We will have until October 16, 2024 to comply. Mike spoke about the changes and how they would impact the District. He will update the Trustees once more information is available.

In the approved 2022 equipment budget there was \$32,000.00 for purchase of a trench compactor. When going to purchase, due to price and availability, we are unable to purchase new. There is a used one available with a 1 year full warrantee for \$23,000.00. With the savings on the trench compactor, Mike requested approval to purchase a 20' storage unit from Bear's Storage Supply for \$4,900.00 delivered. This would be used to store supplies for Main Projects.

On a motion by K. C. Geiger, seconded by Andrew Titus (Treasurer), the motion **passed** unanimously: **To approve purchase of 20' storage container from Bear's Storage Supply.**

NEW BUSINESS –

WATER QUALITY UPDATE – provided by Sid Hazelton, Superintendent

This is the time of year there is limited lake sampling. Turbidity numbers are a little better this year from last year. That is attributed to the early ice in and the additional snow cover.

CITY OF AUBURN – Proposed land use changes within the watershed- Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, shared the information received from the Maine Drinking Water Program in response to his inquiry, on the Trustee's behalf, regarding whether the adoption of the City of Auburn's proposed revisions to the septic standards in the watershed would violate our existing filtration waiver. Sid also shared his response to questions raised by Stephen Milks (President and Mayor's Representative). There was further discussion on the responses as well as additional discussion regarding the 6:00 pm presentation by the City of Auburn Staff regarding proposed changes to the Watershed zoning ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS –

REVIEW OF BY-LAWS FOR THE PROTECTION OF LAKE AUBURN – Report from the Committee

Dan Bilodeau handed out the recent draft created for proposed changes to the Auburn Water District By-Laws for Protection of Lake Auburn. Technical changes were noted in Red and Substantive changes were noted in Blue. He asked Trustees to review the proposed amendments and discuss any changes at the March Meeting.

On a motion by Dan Bilodeau, seconded by Andrew Titus (Treasurer), the motion **passed** unanimously: **To suspend the rules and add under old business the Lewiston letter/email regarding fair negotiations for Watershed costs.**

Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, shared Lewiston's response he received this morning. They have agreed to continue meeting but have asked to delay until their budget process is over given their time constraints.

Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, will reach out to Lewiston to set an April deadline to meet.

On a motion by Bob Cavanagh, seconded by Andrew Titus (Treasurer), motion **passed** unanimously: **To adjourn.**

Meeting adjourned on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 5:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Cass, Accounting Clerk

A true record:

Attest: _____

Clerk

Approved: March 16, 2022