

July 19, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees of the Auburn Water District was held at the office of the Auburn Water District, 268 Court Street, on Wednesday July 19, 2017 at 4:00pm.

Members present: Dan Bilodeau, Robert Cavanagh, Preston Chapman, Tizz Crowley (Treasurer) K. C. Geiger (President), Mary Sylvester and Andrew Titus (Mayor's Representative). Also present: Sid Hazelton, Superintendent, Michael Broadbent, Assistant Superintendent and Greg Leighton, (Maine Water Company), Finance Manager.

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Preston Chapman, it was voted: **To accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 21, 2017.**

GULL MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION - Ben Nugent, Wildlife Biologist with the USDA, talked about gull management. In 2004, the District experienced a high fecal coliform count which posed a threat to our waiver of filtration. Gulls and geese are significant sources of contamination in open water sources. An average of 8500 gulls are dispersed annually and an average of 282 gulls are shot. It is important to keep harassing the wildlife to prevent contamination and maintain our waiver of filtration.

FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE - Revenues are down about \$140,000 but are starting to turn. The forecast is that the District will be fine at year end. A new financial report providing supplemental financial information, graphs on receivables and summary of capital spending was discussed. Andrew Titus would like this information to be part of the monthly report. Trustee K C Geiger suggested that it be discussed again at next month's meeting.

RATIFY PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Preston Chapman, seconded by Tizz Crowley, it was unanimously voted: **To ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$210,377.70 as shown on the printout dated June 13, 2017 – June 30, 2017.**

OPEN SESSION – Ben Nugent, Wildlife Biologist with USDA, was in attendance for a gull management presentation.

ACTIVITY REPORT – The June activity report was presented by Assistant Superintendent Broadbent. The water crew is very busy. There are lots of projects taking place: Lake Street water main replacement, Park Avenue (adjust gates) and Spring flushing. The Poland tank had to be drained and refilled.

NEW BUSINESS

WATER QUALITY UPDATE – The lake is in great shape with low turbidity. The algae at Lake Shore Drive is gone. Proposals for the LAWPC funded Townsend Brook Study will be opened on July 14th. The study is to investigate possible sources of phosphorous in Townsend Brook. Mary Jane Dillingham obtained an additional \$10,000 Grant for that project. Dr. Steve Norton from the Univ. of Maine presented his preliminary findings on the deep water core sample project. A more formal presentation will be made in the near future.

PROJECT UPDATE – Once the sewer replacement on Lake St. between Shepley & Fern is complete, water main replacement will begin between Davis & Haskell. Longchamps & Sons has completed the 750' water main replacement project on Cook Street. The District posted a picture of a section of pipe from a School Street main break which dates back to 1878 on Facebook which got 2200 hits.

LAWPC COMMISSION ASSIGNMENT – The vacancy was posted on Facebook and the District's web page. Bethel Shields was the only applicant.

On motion of Mary Sylvester, seconded by Robert Cavanagh, it was voted: **To nominate Bethel Shields to a three-year term.** Dan Bilodeau opposed.

We need to use our website as ongoing solicitation for applicants.

MEASURING OF THE LAKE – Trustee Mary Sylvester had a serious concern about the cost of having this event which is essentially paid by our rate payers. She recommended that the Trustees give some serious thought about what to do next year and consider the overall perception. Trustee Tizz Crowley did not think that we should cancel this year’s event. Andrew Titus asked how we could continue with the event and not have the rate payers “foot the bill”. We need to reduce the cost and increase the number of people who attend.

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Mary Sylvester, it was unanimously voted: **To look at the event and project as we plan for next year’s Measuring of the Lake.**

OLD BUSINESS

911 COMMUNICATIONS TOWER / UPDATE - L/A 911 has submitted a draft “Shared Communication Facility Lease”. It has been submitted to our attorney for review.

NEW CREDIT CARD PAYMENT OPTION UPDATE – The option seems to be catching on. The sewer trustees recommended that we post a note in the window that we offer credit card payments.

MODIFIED OFFICE HOURS PROPOSAL –

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Dan Bilodeau, it was unanimously voted: **To table for future discussion.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS OF POTENTIAL PROPERTY TRANSACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C).


On motion of Preston Chapman, seconded by Mary Sylvester, it was voted: **To move into EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS OF POTENTIAL PROPERTY TRANSACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C).**

On motion of Dan Bilodeau, seconded by Tizz Crowley, it was unanimously voted: **To come out of Executive Session**

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Preston Chapman, it was unanimously voted: **To adjourn the meeting.**

After adjournment a meeting convened to discuss a supplemental financial report.

Respectfully submitted,


Diane Drinkwater

Approved: August 16, 2017

A true record:

Attest: _____


Clerk