

January 18, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Trustees of the Auburn Water District was held at the Auburn City Building, Room 206, 60 Court Street on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at 4:00pm.

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

On motion of Preston Chapman, seconded by Robert Cavanagh, it was voted: **To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 14, 2016.** Tizz Crowley abstained.

On motion of Rick Whiting, seconded by Robert Cavanagh, it was voted: **To approve the minutes of the Special Joint Meeting of December 15, 2016.** Tizz Crowley abstained.

On motion of Rick Whiting, seconded by Robert Cavanagh, it was voted: **To approve the minutes of the Public hearing of December 15, 2016.** Tizz Crowley abstained.

FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE - The District is looking at a positive budget variance of \$9,578 through December. It has been a good winter with no major water breaks. The District is hoping for restitution of legal costs for pending legal issues. Trustee Tizz Crowley would like to see a breakdown in administrative costs. The District is projecting \$900,000 cash on hand at year end. The Trustees complimented the staff on the collection of past due bills.

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

RATIFY PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Preston Chapman, it was unanimously voted: **To ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$315,222.40 as shown on the printout dated December 9, 2016-January 11, 2017.**

ACTIVITY REPORT – The December activity report was presented by Mike Broadbent. There were water main breaks at the end of December: School Street, Chicoine Avenue, and Whitney Street by French's Lane. New watershed signs have been posted.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW RATE FILING UPDATE – The article by Jonathan Labonte in Twin City Times had some information that was incorrect. Trustee Tizz Crowley suggested that the District draft a response to his letter. The District needs to stop the disparaging remarks if they are not true facts. The letter was directed mostly to the water rate increase. A new rate case was filed on December 19th. Customer notifications were sent December 28th. The Public Notice appeared in the newspaper January 4th. The Public hearing is scheduled for January 18th, 2017 at 5:00pm.

WATER QUALITY REPORT - Superintendent Hazelton showed a year end graph. Ice is forming later and later in the year and the ice out has been earlier in recent years. There has been a spike in *healthy* algae. The lake is trending well. Drought conditions have improved statewide and have not been an issue for the District. The lake officially iced in on January 7th. The gathering of lake data cannot take place unless there is sufficient ice thickness to support sampling efforts.

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2017 PROJECT PLANNING - The District has prioritized its projects. The rate increase will allow the District to replace 1 ½ miles of water pipe.

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Preston Chapman, it was unanimously voted: **To move into Executive Session as per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) to discuss a personnel issue and as per 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (C) to discuss negotiations of a potential property transaction.**

On motion Tizz Crowley, seconded by Preston Chapman, 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.**

Approved: February 22, 2017

A true record:

Attest: _____

Clerk