

May 17, 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 May 17, 2017 at 4:00pm.

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

Absent: Preston Chapman

On motion of Robert Cavanagh, seconded by Tizz Crowley, it was voted: **To accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 19, 2017 as amended.** Dan Bilodeau abstained from the vote.

**FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE** - Revenues are down about 3%. Payroll is favorable and projects have begun. Overtime is budgeted based on the average of previous years. Greg Leighton reported that accounts are tracking normally through the month of April. The balance sheet shows that the District has \$1 million cash on hand. The inventory is included in other current assets. The District has received a Draft of the 2016 Audit. Superintendent Sid Hazelton will forward the Final Audit to the Trustees and post it on our website when it is available.

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

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Robert Cavanagh, it was unanimously voted: **To ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$227,588.04 as shown on the printout dated April 13, 2017 – May 11, 2017.**

The purchase of materials was questioned. The District had gone to bid for materials and had contracted with Ferguson for some of the materials with guaranteed pricing for one year. The crew was not comfortable using some of the parts from Ferguson and the parts needed are not always available. The parts the District purchases from EJP no longer have the VAS consignment pricing and are very competitive and are always available. The District may want to consider going out to bid again for the inventory.

**OPEN SESSION** – Leroy Walker , Councilor, was in attendance.

**ACTIVITY REPORT** – The April activity report was presented by Mike Broadbent. The crews have installed manholes on Cook St. and have now moved on to Lake St. cutting gate valves and prepping for temporary services. Trustee Mary Sylvester wanted to know how much vacant land was available for development and the availability of water and sewer service. There are several maps on the City website showing the availability of infrastructure for economic and community development. The District needs to promote this availability.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**2016 ANNUAL GULL MANAGEMENT REPORT** – Bacteria counts in the Lake are at a historical low and evidence that the management efforts are working. The Trustees expressed their concern over the cost of managing the gulls. It is a costly service but the District feels the need to continue to avoid the risk of a bacteria hit. A study and research is needed before any changes are made. It was suggested that Ben Nugent offer a community informational meeting possibly at the Library.

**WATER SYSTEM HYDRAULIC MODEL** – The District received a \$15,000 Capacity Development Matching Grant from the Maine Drinking Water Program to develop a hydraulic model of the District's water distribution system. The model is necessary to develop a unidirectional hydrant flushing program which was recommended in the corrosion control study. This would also be useful in determining system capacity and how changes in water demand affect the flow in other areas. An RFP is due May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Andrew Titus voiced his concern that we were adding this expense which is not a line item in this year's budget. Superintendent Hazelton said the Grant is available now and may not be next year.

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Dan Bilodeau, it was voted: **To move forward with the development of the Water System Hydraulic Model utilizing the committed \$15,000 Capacity Development Matching Grant at a cost to the District not to exceed \$15,000. Vote 5-1 (Andrew Titus opposed)**

If any of the Trustees have an interest in reviewing the RFPs, they should make it known to Superintendent Hazelton. Mike Broadbent was congratulated for his efforts in obtaining the Grant. Superintendent Hazelton was given Trustee approval to choose the qualified consultant.

**WATER QUALITY UPDATE-** Jim Pellerin from Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is conducting fish netting program to remove yellow perch who have populated the lake at the expense of the smelt population. The increase in perch is not good news for Salmon and Togue.

**AWARD PAVING BID** – Spencer Group Paving was the only bidder. It may be worthwhile to bid on our own in the future and hopefully get more bidders.

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Mary Sylvester, it was unanimously voted: **To award the Utility Trench Restoration bid to Spencer Group Paving.**

**AWARD CHEMICALS BID** – There were six bidders. Christopher Curtis recommended that the award for Water Treatment Chemicals be made on an item by item basis to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

Hydrofluosilicic Acid	BORDEN & REMINGTON FALL RIVER, MA	\$2.0142/gallon
Sodium Hydroxide	BORDEN & REMINGTON FALL RIVER, MA	\$0.8891/gallon
Ammonium Sulfate	GAC CHEMICAL SEARSPORT, ME	\$2.7450/gallon
Sodium Hypochlorite	HARCROS CHEMICAL WESTBROOK, ME	\$0.6948/gallon

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Mary Sylvester, it was unanimously voted: **To award the bid for chemicals as recommended by Chris Curtis.**

Trustee Andrew Titus requested that he be sent a copy of the bid tabulation.

**HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT** - Chris Curtis received two Safety and Security Solution Proposals: AdvanceTechnology and Securadyne Systems.

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Mary Sylvester, it was unanimously voted: **To award the Homeland Security bid to Securadyne Systems as recommended by Chris Curtis to be funded fully with Grant money.**

**PUBLIC EDUCATION** – A & L Laboratories would like to hold an evening public event sometime in June to discuss lead and arsenic in the public's drinking water and wells. This would be another informational piece for the facebook page

**SEASONAL EQUIPMENT RENTAL** - The District has rented an excavator for the construction season from Chadwick-Baross which is charged to the Capital Projects.

**TOUCH-A-TRUCK** - May 6 – Despite the rain there was a good attendance. The District displayed its large white dump truck which had the longest line of children. The District had a vinyl banner made to let people know who we were.

**TAYLOR POND YEAR ROUND WATER** – Joan Macri of 42 Waterview Drive has inquired about the possibility of installing year round water for the 70 seasonal customers on Taylor Pond. There is little economic incentive for the District to consider year round water. Superintendent Hazelton also said that customers could not be forced to help pay for the cost of the project. She approached the City to see if they would fund the project saying that the customers would upgrade their homes resulting in increased tax revenue. This is a really complicated project. Superintendent Hazelton told Peter Crichton that the District is not interested in putting money towards an engineering study. The District could, however, help with the study and research.

Leroy Walker said that if you did this for Taylor Pond, you would receive requests from other areas of the City, such as Park Avenue.

Trustee Andrew Titus felt that there was not enough work done on this as it has only been discussed a month ago. Are the seasonal customers paying reasonable rates as compared to the District's other rate payers? The Trustees were opposed to funding a study or pursuing the installation of year-round water for the seasonal customers at Taylor Pond.

#### **OLD BUSINESS –**

**PROJECT UPDATES** – The Lake Street project has begun. Longchamps & Sons won the bid for City road reconstruction on Cook and Eighth Sts. and are looking to start June 1<sup>st</sup>. Our crew will be tied up on Lake St. Longchamps & Sons submitted a proposal to replace the main on Cook & Eighth streets at a cost of \$79.00/ft.

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Dan Bilodeau, it was unanimously voted: **To follow staff recommendation and accept the proposal from Longchamps & Sons to complete the main replacement at Cook and Eighth Streets.**

**LEAD SAMPLING UPDATE** – The District has collected 52 of the required 60 samples due to be done by the end of June, three of which have not passed. We can only have two more failures in the remaining samples which will allow the District to return to compliance monitoring.

**WORK ORDER SYSTEM** – Tabled

**SALARY SURVEY** -The survey had been tabled pending review of the survey conducted four years ago. It was suggested that the survey be added to next year's budget.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS OF POTENTIAL PROPERTY TRANSACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C).**- Superintendent Hazelton did not have anything to report on this matter.

Trustee K C Geiger wanted to discuss the negotiations of the potential property transaction.

On motion of Dan Bilodeau, second by Robert Cavanagh, it was unanimously voted: **To move into Executive Session in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) ( C ) to discuss negotiations of potential property transaction.**

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

**OTHER**

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Robert Cavanagh, it was unanimously voted: **To move into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) ( E ) to discuss Litigation Issues.**

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Mary Sylvester, it was unanimously voted: **To come out of Executive Session.**

The meeting adjourned.

Approved: June 21, 2017

A true record:

Attest:

  
Clerk

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Drinkwater