

October 18, 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 October 18, 2017 at 4:00pm.

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

Trustees absent: Preston Chapman and Mary Sylvester

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Robert Cavanagh, it was unanimously voted: **To accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 20, 2017 as amended.**

FINANCIAL REPORT UPDATE –The overall expenses are close to budget. The projection is that the District will make budget. The year end cash on hand will be close to \$1 million. The District could be looking at a small rate increase of about 3% in 2020. We have made great strides with receivables. A request was made to show how much of the receivables are in lien status.

Trustee K C Geiger inquired about the New Gloucester Contract. Superintendent Hazelton said that he would take a good look at the Contract when it comes up for renewal.

RATIFY PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Dan Bilodeau, it was unanimously voted: **To ratify the payment of bills in the amount of \$540,561.19 as shown on the printout dated September 1, 2017 – September 30, 2017.**

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

ACTIVITY REPORT - The Lake Street Project has been completed. The basins on Fifth Street had to be cleaned as a result of the main break. The year-to-date number of shut-offs has dropped significantly. An attempt is made to contact the delinquents by telephone or email prior to the disconnect which has been very successful in cutting down the number of actual shut-offs. The Hardscrabble Reservoir and Poland tank have been cleaned. The Goff Hill reservoir will soon have to be cleaned as well.

NEW BUSINESS

2018 DRAFT BUDGET –The Capital Budget has not been finalized at this point. Trustee Tizz Crowley encouraged the District to budget 2018 revenues the same as 2017. The District will have the new numbers for the health plan next week. Trustee Tizz Crowley would like to see a freeze on family coverage and possibly put the cost savings towards salary bumps. A full budget package will be available for the November meeting.

Superintendent Hazelton will email all Trustees concerning changing the November meeting date to a date that will work best for everyone as it is currently scheduled for the day before Thanksgiving.

WATER QUALITY UPDATE –The graphs included in the packets show that the water quality is very good by historical standards.. The question was asked again as to why we spend so much money on gull management. The CDC stresses the importance of protecting our water source.

The District has received Grant money for Townsend Brook and the hydraulic water model.

The District has sent a letter to the Maine Drinking Water Program proposing optimized quality parameters that we will target moving forward. Once reviewed we will get notification of its adoption.

The EPA has published the new Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) which lists the contaminants that must be monitored by public water systems. The testing must start in July, 2018. This program will

cost the District \$15,000 over the next two years. An EPA directive will simplify the Monthly Operating Report to the Maine Drinkwater Program.

PROJECT UPDATE - The projects were discussed in the Activity Report.

LEGISLATION /SHUT OFFS - Legislation is asking for an additional three-days Notice of Shut-off for multi-unit properties. The 14-Day Notice would change to a 17- Day Notice for multi-unit buildings. We are opposed to this proposal as it will increase our notifications costs. Tanya Johnson will formulate a response and send it to the Public Utilities Commission. A formal rulemaking is scheduled for Nov. 24th. Greg Leighton said it would make more sense to go to 17 days for everyone.

911 COMMUNICATIONS TOWER / UPDATE - The agreement is still under review.

On motion of Tizz Crowley, seconded by Andrew Titus, it was unanimously voted: **To authorize Superintendent Hazelton to sign the finalized Lease Agreement.**

AUDITOR – We have received four proposals which are currently under review.

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Drinkwater

Approved: November 15, 2017

A true record:

Attest: _____

Clerk