

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2022
7:00 P.M.
CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT**

- I. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting called to order by Chairman Bergin @ 7:00 pm

The following were in attendance:

Kevin Bergin, Chairman	LCAC
Arthur E.J. Levesque, Commissioner	3- subscribers
Benjamin Morris, Superintendent	
Robert H. Lemieux, Sr., Commissioner	
Jennifer Wood, Treasurer	
Cheryl Balkus, Clerk	

- II. **District Member Forum** – There were no question or comments from the Commissioners or the listening audience. Commissioner Levesque motions to end the district member forum. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved. The forum ended at two minutes and four seconds.

III. APPROVE MINUTES

- A. **March 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes** - Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the March 1, 2022 meeting minutes. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

IV. FINANCE

- A. **Approve March 7, 2022 Warrants** – Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the March 7, 2022 warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

- B. **Approve March 14, 2022 Warrants**- Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the March 14, 2022 warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

The warrants consist of office expense, technology, repair and maintenance, electricity, pipes, heat, payroll, lab work, Grindstone well \$17,173.97, insurance, telephone, service agreement, motor vehicle expense, City of Worcester \$25,124.49 the total was \$72,918.07.

- C. **Budget Update** – Per the Superintendent he and Treasurer Wood continue to work on the budget and currently no changes. Still getting prices from contractors since inflation of items. Once finalized will look at the rate structure and perhaps there can be a slight reduction to the tiered rates.

V. ADMINISTRATION –

- A. **Fee Schedule – Fire Service Fee**

A draft letter has been done to reinstitute the fire service fee and asking if there is any question, comment regarding the draft. The previous fee when this was being charged was \$23.00 and proposing \$25.00. Per the Superintendent we are only

looking at 22 properties that have sprinklers. Our larger buildings are on Route 56 and Route 9 and with more development beginning, we need to have the fee as we have no way to charge for the water if it were to be used. Per Commissioner Lemieux thankful to reinstating this. Chairman Bergin suggests that it read that we will be reinstating of the fee and the fee will be \$25.00. Commissioner Levesque and Lemieux also agree. Commissioner Lemieux motions to reinstate the fire service fee at \$25.00. Seconded by Commissioner Levesque. All in favor. Approved.

Subscriber Buteau, fire service is in the district's budget and asked if we have anything in to replacing a hydrant. Per the Superintendent the town owns the hydrants the districts maintain them, and it is a gray area. We do own a handful in the N. Oxford section of town. If we have an issue, the fees are charged against line items repair/maintenance and subcontractors. We have so few we inspect them during flushing and manage or plan if we needed to rebuild. It's kept within the budget and not to have a separate line item to cause confusion.

VI. Operations

A. Superintendent's Report –

More deliveries have been received for the Well project. Baystate is finishing up on another project and should be here next week to begin.

Spoke with MHQ of purchasing a truck. It's very interesting situation with purchasing. If approved at the May meeting could not submit the order for a F250 in September, we would not see a truck delivered until October- 2023 or January 2024 and a dump truck would not be seen till summer of 2024. We still need to ensure current vehicles are running for this entire time. The F250 basic is approximately \$65,000 and a 1-ton dump is about \$125,000. Last year when proposed the price for the dump truck was \$75,000. The next few years is going to be very challenging with purchasing of vehicles. Per Commissioner Levesque asked if voted at the May meeting will the price still be good? Per the Superintendent we will be going off what we are quoted at and once ordered we will be locked in at that price. The Superintendent would like to know if the board wants him to continue to get more information so he can have it be placed in a draft warrant article and decide. Commissioner Levesque agrees with pursuing. Commissioner Lemieux does not agree. Chairman Bergin agrees with pursuing and when it comes to if we want on as a warrant we can decide.

Terminations began. With the fluctuation of the temperatures does not want to terminate at this time and will blue dot services.

1030 Stafford St: To excavate and replace the valve is between \$7,000 - \$9,000 and this is on the high end, it could be less at \$6,800 -\$7,000. The building is vacant, we cannot get access in the building, could cause a back feed situation, and cost a lot more money to the district so we must do this. To get a contractor in mid-April to protect the system.

Also for the Spring, now that the entire mill on Chapel St has been removed there are a lot of water mains here and going to ask about them exposing them so they can be capped off to protect the system from cross contamination.

VII. Communications – Nothing to report

VIII. PERSONNEL – Nothing to report

IX. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A. Approval of Next Meeting - Commissioner Lemieux motioned to hold the next Meeting Hybrid Tuesday, April 5, 2022, in the Selectboard room at the Leicester Town Hall 3 Washburn Sq. Leicester, MA @ 7:00 PM. Seconded by Commissioner Levesque. All in favor. Approved.

X. ADJOURNMENT- Commissioner Levesque motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:44P.M.

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