

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2019

7:00P.M.

CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT

- I. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Kevin M. Bergin at 7:00 P.M. The following were in attendance:

Kevin M. Bergin, Chairman

Robert H. Lemieux, Sr. Commissioner

Arthur E.J. Levesque, Commissioner

Benjamin Morris, Superintendent

Cheryl Balkus, Clerk

Attorney Barry Bachrach

12 Subscribers

II. **District Member Forum**

Customer Margaret Darling 17 Brown St requests to have in the minutes Senator Moore's post on May 30th. 2019 from his Facebook page. "Last week, I worked to secure funding in the Senate's Fiscal Year 2020 state budget to support the development of a water and sewer economic infrastructure feasibility study, and master plan for the Town of Leicester. I have received dozens of calls, and e-mails about these issues, and have continued to work with federal, state and local officials, and ratepayers, to discuss potential solutions to resolve these issues. A full review of these utilities should be completed to unite patchwork of services in an efficient, viable model that meets the needs of the community." Customer Margaret Darling asks if there have been any further meetings for the working groups and do, we know when the next meeting is. Per Chairman Bergin, we do not know when the next meeting is to be and will follow up with Town Administrator David Genereaux to see when the next meeting will be and the \$100,000.00 for the feasibility study hopefully will be available in September. Customer Greg Buteau 2 Merrick St had a discussion with the Town Administrator who is in the process of putting together a grant application. Customer Greg Buteau wanted to confirm that there is a \$100,000.00 to come from Senator Moore and \$100,000.00 from Congressman McGovern and wanted to know the name of the company that Representative LeBoeuf met with in June. Per Superintendent Morris the name is RCAP solutions. In June an RCAP Representative has come in once a week, the priority is the Sewer District financials and then Asset Management Program. There is no focus currently on water. For the Sewer District they are looking at the Betterments going back to the beginning till current and other items. Customer Buteau agrees sewer has a higher priority. Customer Jason Lavallee 62 McCarthy Ave. new to the neighborhood and needs to be brought up to speed somehow and what resources there are. Per Superintendent Morris can meet with him after the meeting, can also refer to the CVRWD Website Meeting Minutes. Customer Derek Stolberg wanted to know if there was an update to E-Billing. Per Clerk Cheryl Balkus it was approved to have the software added and the plan is to have it go into effect with the 9/1/19 bills. Customer Rick Niddrie 96 Willow Hill Rd. thinks the government had something on social media that there is \$12 million available and wondered if there is something we can apply for. Per Superintendent

Morris there are some ways to get and we continue to look of ways to obtain. Customer Niddrie suggests we get some money and understands that we do not have a grant writer. Commissioner Lemieux mentioned if there is someone in the town or district that could come forward and volunteer to see if they can write to get a grant. The EPA has money for disadvantage towns and perhaps we could get this. Per Chairman Bergin with EPA it is loan attached and the District is trying to avoid this, grants would be ideal. Customer Niddrie will investigate this who might be a resource. Commissioner Lemieux would like to see about bringing topic back about the Grindstone Well and about bringing back the reserve of \$50,000 that was vetoed. Since we will be having an upcoming special meeting if we could include the Grindstone Well back and getting the reserve account back. Per Superintendent Morris need to have a meeting with Tata & Howard regarding the Grindstone and this would not be until August. It is required first to get everyone on same page before moving forward. Per Commissioner Lemieux in the beginning was not for getting the Grindstone Well back on-line but after doing research it would be beneficial to the District to get it back on-line. Customer Margaret Darling as subscribers wanted to know what the cost would be by using the well. Per Chairman Bergin it is three to four times cheaper to produce than to buy the water from the City of Worcester. Customer John Shocik 7 Folsom St says as for a forensic audit doesn't it have to warrant criminal activity? Attorney Barry Bachrach did not understand why it is being brought up as he thought it was put to bed. Per Chairman Bergin it was not because it was not clear from the subscribers what they are specifically looking for and need to know what has been misappropriated. Customer Shocik says this will involve substantial costs. Customer Margaret Darling wanted to clarify that she did not request the forensic audit. Customer Greg Buteau they need to go to the client who wrote the request and provide a specific scope. "Just Google forensic audit to understand." Commissioner Lemieux motions to end the forum earlier than the 30 minutes. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. June 18, 2019 - Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the minutes of June 18, 2019 Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

IV. FINANCE

A. Approve June 24, 2019 Warrants—Commissioner Lemieux motions to approve the June 24, 2019 warrants. Seconded by Commissioner Levesque. All in Favor. Approved.

B. Approve June 30, 2019 Warrants –Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the June 30, 2019 warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

C. Approve July 8, 2019 Warrants – Commissioner Lemieux motions to approve the June 8, 2019 warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

D. May Bank Transfers – Incorrect information. Commissioner Lemieux motions to table for the next meeting. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

- E. June Bank Transfers – Commissioner Lemieux to motions transfer \$38,620.87 from sewer to water accounts. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

V. Administration

- A. **Application for License / All in One Drain Cleaning** – Per Superintendent Morris customer applying for license to do work in the District. He has provided insurance information. Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the application. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.
- B. **Service Renewal / 10 Reservoir Cherry Valley** – Per Superintendent Morris this is a change in contractor while rehabbing the house and is a formality. Commissioner Levesque motioned to approve. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor approved.

VI. Operations

A. **Superintendent's Report**

1. **System Update** – No district timeline with the DOT. There was a preconstruction meeting held 7/10/19. We have checked our equipment to be ready. Ongoing process- slow and steady. The Greenville storage tank is scheduled to be cleaned this year. The agreement was to have it done by end of this year. The hydraulic model to be done first. We have not done this since the tie into Worcester. Tata & Howard to do this and make sure does not affect the Rochdale area. It will take a couple of days to drain the tank, a couple days to clean it, a few days to fill and then 24 hours for sampling. Overall it will take approximately seven days. The tank holds 500,000 gallons of water, Commissioner Lemieux wanted to know if there was a way to capture this besides letting it go down the drain. Suggested the fire trucks, or perhaps sell it to pool tanker trucks. Per Superintendent Morris Lead & Copper sampling being done for quarter 3. (June 1st to Sept 30) per DEP. 40 samples required from residential homes. 20 to be done in July, 20 to be done in August and the remainder in September to meet the requirements. The Annual Audit is scheduled week of Aug 19th. A brief meeting was held with Aquarion. The Water District did not meet with them, the Sewer District did meet. There was minor discussion on the water side but look at both to see if any potential of doing something for the district. Very preliminary with no further information to provide. The pumping average is 215,000 gallons per day for the month of June. Trending on 210,000 to 220,000 since January. Commissioner Lemieux asked about a subscriber mentioning an odor. Per Superintendent Morris e-mails are not seen during the weekend if someone calls during the weekend the call can go to the Superintendent or the Operator on call. This customer we hydrant flushed it for approximately an hour. The area is a dead end main and can be stagnant water or if the customer water heater is an issue can also result in odor. Following up with the customer 7/11/19. Customer Greg Buteau making suggestion of cost savings with the audit. The Auditors who do performs the town audit is for \$6,500.00, where our water and sewer district the district is paying \$12,000.00 and thinks that the District to investigate and have the town firm do the audit. He also wanted to know if there was a follow up with the Sargent St change order. Per the Superintendent he did send an e-mail to

work it in. The response was that it could not be incorporated in their scope of the work. Does not look like we can get it done with the time restraints but will be looking to see if it could and looking at a couple other options. The Grindstone Well follow up won't be till at least August. Commissioner Lemieux wondered if we could see about getting together with the other Districts when ordering to get a better rate when items are being purchased. Per the Superintendent we did recently do this with Town of Leicester for items such as manholes. The bills are purchased differently than the Town of Leicester, but we can look at this as well. Customer John Shocik said of the state starts at the west end of town this may give us time to get prepped for Sargent St. Per the Superintendent we do not know and will know more at the meeting he is to attend 7/10/19. In meanwhile looking at an alternate plan.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. 7-2-19 Customer Request: Buteau –** Subject: Adoption of the speaking policy Petition is signed by 25 subscribers. “All attendees who are registered voters within the district boundaries, person who have been issued a water bill, or are a CV&RWD employee, shall be allowed to speak at Annual, Special & other District meetings. Other attendees at meetings not included in the above sentence may speak, by a majority vote of the attendees cited in the first sentence. The majority vote requirement for other attendees to speak may be waived by the moderator at Annual or Special District meetings. The majority vote requirements for other attendees to speak may be waived by Chairman of the Board of Water Commissioners at District meetings that are not Annual or Special District meetings. Customer Greg Buteau expresses that certain individuals should be allowed to speak at meetings, which is very different from the vote issue and allow a majority vote and the Chairman can ask the Board to allow or it can be waived at regular meetings and the Moderator to allow or not at the Special Meetings. Commissioner Lemieux motions to adopt the request. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.
- B. Potential Draft Warrant Articles –** Subject: Based from prior meeting trying to broaden the vote for business and made it a separate section as 2a to define who votes Seems the consensus is that the people do not get more than 1 vote. PROPOSED ARTICLE -To see if the District will vote to amend Chapter 105 of the acts of 1996 is hereby amended by inserting the following Section 2A: The following shall have the right to vote at the Annual Meeting and any duly called Special District Meeting: (1) any registered voter who resides within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2, (2) any incorporated association or organization operating within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2 and which receives a bill from the District for water usage, 3) any person who owns property within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2 and who receives a bill from the District for water usage, notwithstanding that any such person resides outside the boundary lines set forth in Section 2, and 4) any person or legal entity operating a business within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2 and who receives a bill from the District for water usage, notwithstanding that any such person or legal entity resides outside the boundary lines set forth in Section 2. However, any registered voter who resides within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2, any incorporated association or organization operating within the boundary lines set

forth in Section 2 and which receives a bill from the District for water usage, any person who owns property within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2 and who receives a bill from the District for water usage, notwithstanding that any such person resides outside the boundary lines set forth in Section 2, and any person or legal entity that conducts a business within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2 and who receive a bill from the District for water usage, notwithstanding that any such person or legal entity resides outside the boundary lines set forth in Section 2, shall have only one vote, regardless of the number of bills received by the registered voter, any incorporated association or organization operating within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2 and which receives a bill from the District for water usage, any person who owns property within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2 and who receives a bill from the District for water usage notwithstanding that any such person resides outside the boundary lines set forth in Section 2, or person or legal entity operating a business within the boundary lines set forth in Section 2 and who receives a bill from the District for water usage, notwithstanding that any such person or legal entity resides outside the boundary lines set forth in Section 2. or take any other action thereon.

Commissioner Levesque wanted to know about who would be voting for the Inc, LLC, Church etc... Can't have more than 1 person. Need to define who is going to be able to vote and we use the regular voters list and if we amend the voters list will not be helpful as to who can vote. Per Attorney Bachrach assuming if this were to pass, we would need to figure a way for these businesses to be able to. This would be the next phase. With more of the push hopes that it won't fall flat at the Legislature. Customer Buteau, suggests sending a letter to the individuals to identify what they want for this forensic audit to get the scope for the response.

VIII. PERSONNEL

IX. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A. Approval of Next Meeting- Commissioner Levesque motioned to hold the next meeting Tuesday, July 23, 2019 @ 7:00 PM. at the Leicester Town Hall
Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

X. ADJOURNMENT-Commissioner Lemieux motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Levesque. All in Favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

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