

**CHERRY VALLEY SEWER DISTRICT
BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

October 8, 2020

7:00 P.M.

- I. CALL TO ORDER Chairman Manseau called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with the following present:

Donald Manseau, Chairman
Robert H. Lemieux, Sr. Commissioner
Michael DellaCava, Commissioner
Benjamin J. Morris, Superintendent
Jennifer Wood, Treasurer
Cheryl Balkus, Recording Secretary

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. **September 10, 2020** – Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the minutes of September 10, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.

III. FINANCE

- A. **Approve the Warrant of September 17, 2020** – Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the warrant of September 17, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.

- B. **Approve the Warrant of October 8, 2020** - Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve the warrant of October 8, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.

- C. **Treasurer Report** – Per Treasurer Wood

The detailed CVSD Operational Report can be located @ www.cvrwd.com

Operation Financial Report

Revenue Received: \$210,167.74

Expenses: \$103,707.74

Amount needed to collect for Operating Budget FY21 (does not include debt service) \$583,477.25.

Amount collected to date: \$210,167.74.

Amount still required: \$373,309.51

Upcoming Operation Expenses: Total \$479,769.51

Left in Budget (does not include CVRWD Service Agreement): \$54,361.94

Upper Blackstone: \$82,726.50

City of Worcester: \$235,000.00 (Estimated)

CVRWD Service Agreement: \$107,681.07

Total Betterments expected to collect: \$88,869.67

Betterment Payments Received to Date: \$6,974.59

Betterment Loan Payments Due: \$310,028.00

December 2020: \$128,059.00

March 2021: \$76,006.00

April 2021: \$105,963.00

Betterment Summary:

Betterments Collected vs Loan Payments (\$303,053.41)

CVSD FY20 (\$176,280.51)

CVSD FY21- as of Sept – 2020 \$122,770.33

Aged Receivables

As of 7-31-2020: \$49,387.43

0-90 days past due: \$35,623.08

Over 90 days past due: \$13,764.35

As of 8-31-2020: \$56,009.32

0-90 days past due: \$40,035.94

Over 90 days past due: \$15,973.38

As of 9-30-2020: \$62,573.53

0-90 days past due: \$38,061.89

Over 90 days past due: \$24,511.54

Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in Favor. Approved.

D. August Bank Transfer – Commissioner DellaCava motions to approve transfer \$39.43 transfer from water to sewer. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in Favor. Approved.

E. Unibank Financial Advisor – Per Treasurer Wood she reached out to Unibank in the past she had and wanted to again to see if they would reconsider refinancing loans. Per information she has received they can research and have provided paperwork that requires signature approval to allow them to do the research and speak on our behalf. This would be free at this time and if they are able to find something to help then a fee would incur later. Per Commissioner Lemieux in the addendum it reads that we would have to pay for them to do the research. Per Treasurer Wood there is not fee, that at this time this would allow Unibank permission to speak to other parties to see about getting assistance. Per Superintendent Morris this is new information received to us this week, Commissioner Lemieux motions that this item be tabled till the next meeting so that the information received can be further reviewed and more information can be collected. If the commissioners have more questions that they can send them to the Treasurer to get additional information. Seconded by DellaCava. All in Favor. Approved.

IV. ADMINISTRATION

A. USDA Update – Per Superintendent Morris to inform the Board that a response letter was received from the USDA that states that they cannot refinance the loans or forgive them but allow the Massachusetts Division to look into deferral and the re amortization. He has reached out to our USDA Massachusetts contact. She has a meeting with her bosses and a Representative from USDA in DC next week to discuss our situation of potential options of what we can do. We will wait and see what she says, go from there and have more concrete info on it for the next meeting. It was not what we hoped for, but it is a positive that they are looking at some options for us.

V. OPERATIONS –

A. Superintendent Report – Per Superintendent Morris they did manhole rehabs off of Boyd St, more on Sargent and the Redfield area. They are still working on a few others such as grouting of brickwork or sealing and hope to wrap up next week. Some sewer jetting was done to certain areas to keep clean.

Flows are low. for the quarter bill should be under \$25,000.00. This is half of what was budgeted and tremendous for the District.

Last month there was discussion of what makes the District a municipality.

Representative Leboeuf responded with the following:

“For the purpose of MA Law, the enabling acts classify the district as a municipality/public entity because of the specific political boundaries, governance operations, definition of eligible voters, and power to tax. A private utility or a co-operatively owned utility would not have these statutorily defined constraints and powers.

Since Chapter 9 is a federal law, likely there would be court precedents and other case law that would define the term municipality for the purposes of seeking bankruptcy. That a bankruptcy attorney would have to be consulted.”

David H.A. LeBoeuf
State Representative
17th Worcester District
State House, Room 146A
Boston, MA 02133
PH: 617-722-2575

Two weeks ago, a call was received from Channel 7 inquiring of the water and sewer. He met with a reporter and discussed everything that has been done with politicians and everyone seeking aid from. The Water Board was informed. We will wait and see when the story will be aired. The reporter is still looking into, and Superintendent Morris did not know what else they are looking for and wanted to inform the Board that this has happened. He also wanted to state that the names of the Commissioners were not given to the reporter by the office. If they received their names or contacts it came from someone else.

VI. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A. Approval of Next Meeting Date – Commissioner Lemieux motioned to hold the next Virtual meeting November 12, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner Lemieux motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

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