

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

MEETING MINUTES

April 13, 2023

7:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER Chairman Manseau called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

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

Subscriber: Tom Lennon
Nonsubscriber: Greg Buteau

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. **March 16, 2023** - Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the meeting minutes of March 16, 2023. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor. Approved.

III. FINANCE –

- A. **Approve Warrant of April 13, 2023** - Commissioner Lemieux motions to approve the April 13, 2023, warrants. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor. Approved.

- B. **Bank Transfer** – Commissioner Lemieux motions to transfer \$92.98 from water funds to sewer online collections account. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor. Approved.

- C. **Budget Approval** – Per the Superintendent the last change was the insurance line item. Increase added line-item workers comp insurance. Prior, we did not do this, the water district was paying for it all and now the sewer district will be responsible for their share. Per Commissioner Lemieux this proposed budget is \$718,782.25 but only projected to collect \$680,000.00 and betterments of \$56,000.00 and we are hoping to collect to satisfy the entire budget. Per the superintendent does not know if there will be future connection fees that will be collected, for example Sky View project. Per Commissioner Lemieux we can't bank on this money and compare op budget and compared to rates need to bring in enough to cover the budget. Per Treasurer Wood we are just seeing August payments from the town now. Per Commissioner Cusolito this may come up with the town budget review and per Superintendent Morris this is not only affecting our district it is affecting all districts. Per Treasurer Wood we review rates as we go along to ensure we are meeting the budget. Our rate with Upper Blackstone has decreased again whereas other towns who are connected to Upper Blackstone are experiencing increases and we are also working on the Worcester transportation fees. The bottom line is to stay on target, will be reviewed monthly and to provide the commission quarterly feedback. Per Commissioner Lemieux would rather keep the budget as is for now. Commissioner Cusolito motions to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.

- D. **Annual Warrant Article Approval** – Commissioner Cusolito motions to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.

IV. ADMINISTRATION - Nothing to report.

V. Superintendent Report

Inland Waters to come in and fix manholes on Route 9, found two that are a problem. If we find more will have them back again.

Upper Blackstone did sample of the Route 9 meter pit. They need a baseline of what is coming out of each town that is going through the system and they are going to get a new person for their calibration of their meters and let us know who it will be.

A pump core was found. It is a knock off brand for \$1,800.00 instead of \$4,500.00 and will it fit in to change it out. Time spent time in the station rebuilding and having pumps running efficiently.

Quarter 3 flows were submitted to Worcester we budget \$58,000.00 we were up to \$69,000.00. The 1st and 2nd quarters were much lower, and it should all average out by the final quarter.

Was contacted by a rate payer that the town starting an ARPA grant committee and asked to be involved of what we might be able to get. Per Commissioner Cusolito they have more information and what to ask for. Still a lot of some unknowns. Per the Superintendent maybe smoke testing can be done with the money that won't be taken out of the budget or to camera and clean route 9 section. Reducing the I/I (Inflow & Infiltration) will reduce the City of Worcester costs and Upper Blackstone 3-year average. These are the districts' largest costs.

Found some cracked manhole frames, to be changed out. Unable to use the ones we have on hand as they are a different size.

Went to a conference and found a technology that makes a heat shrink that wraps around the chimney of the manhole and shrinks wraps it up watertight. This may be less expensive than the other alternative that we have used. Commissioner Lemieux suggests looking into the shrink wrap consists of how many mills thick it is and perhaps it is something we can do on our own. Example: same as what is done for boats.

VI. Date of Next Meeting:

A. Approval of Next Meeting Date - Commissioner Cusolito motioned to hold the next Sewer Meeting May 11, 2023, at 7:00 P.M at 148 Henshaw St Leicester, MA. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.

VII. ADJOURNMENT - Commissioner Cusolito motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

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