

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES
October 8, 2024
6:30 P.M.
CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT - Hybrid

- I.** CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chairman McGinn at 6:42 p.m.

The following were in attendance:

Joseph McGinn, Chairman
Arthur E.J. Levesque, Commissioner - online 1 - subscriber in attendance
Benjamin Morris, Superintendent 0 - online subscribers
Robert H. Lemieux, Sr., Commissioner - absent
Jennifer Wood, Treasurer - online
Cheryl Balkus, Clerk

- II.** District Member Forum – Chairman McGinn called the district member forum to begin. Per Subscriber Buteau commented that when he called into the last meeting and tried to comment, no one heard him to ask to speak and wondered if there was a problem. Per Chairman McGinn and Superintendent Morris there were no issues that they were made aware of that one of the Commissioners called into the meeting and was speaking back and forth during the meeting without issues. There were no other questions or comments. Commissioner Levesque motions to close the district member forum seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in favor. Approved.

- III.** APPROVE MINUTES
September 10, 2024, Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the September 10, 2024, minutes. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in favor. Approved.

IV. FINANCE

- A.** Approve 9/16/2024, 9/23/2024, 9/30/2024 & 10/7/2024 Warrants

Commissioner Levesque motions to approve all the above warrants. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in favor. Approved.

- B.** September bank transfer - Commissioner Levesque motions to transfer from the water checking account to the sewer account in the amount of \$62,973.13. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in Favor. Approved.

- C.** Treasurer Report – Per Treasurer Wood, expenditures to date \$377,374.95. After reimbursement from the sewer district the remaining balance of the budget is \$876,301.38. Total revenue for September is \$143,524.72 and total revenue received since beginning of FY25 \$383,348.47. The water district operating expenses to date are in the positive approximately \$6,000.00.

Subscriber Buteau inquired about the surplus of the Sargent St water line in the amount of \$96,000.00. Per Superintendent Morris all the bills are not in and final paving to be done, however there will be a surplus because it came in under.

Commissioner Levesque motions to accept the reports. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in Favor. Approved.

V. Administrative

A. 9-13-24 12-month payment plan

Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the 12-month payment plan. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in favor. Approved.

VI. Operations

A. Superintendent Report

Hydrant flushing will be completed in the Valley this week and did not run into any issues. To proceed with the Rochdale area next week to be completed by end of October.

Sargent St will have complete final paving next week.

In August one water tank cleaned others inspected. There are a few safety concerns with the West St such as ladder safety system and venting. A request made for a quote from them for fixing. The Greenville tank showed ¼ inch sediment, water was crystal clear & some small cracks to watch.

Kettle Brook Design slow moving because of Mass DOT. Waiting for a sign off of a permit, there is going back and forth with Tata & Howard regarding certain depth of the asphalt. Hopefully will have by next month to go forward with the borings.

Media still has not arrived; we received a call last week to confirm if we had a fork truck. Once received it will be changed out.

The new auditors were in to gather information that will now be put together for the completion of the audit.

There are issues with the 2015 F250 with 75,000 miles. Recently the rocker and cab panels we replaced and now the bed is in poor shape underneath. While driving felt the truck shift, identified that the bedrails that hold the bed to the truck rotted and managed to temporarily fix it to make it drivable. Due to the undercoating that was done two years ago, unable to see the rust. Researched options and looking at approximately \$8,500.00. Per Chairman McGinn believes that the truck could push into the 100,000 miles and to do the flat bed conversion and find a way to fit this expense in this year's budget not to exceed \$9,000.00. Commissioner Levesque motions to authorize the Superintendent to proceed with the replacement of the truck bed to a flatbed for not more than \$9,000.00. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in favor. Approved.

Lead Service Line Grant Approval – All certifying paperwork done for Mass DEP. We have approximately 85 services that are unknown that we will continue with, Tata & Howard has \$48,000.00 left over, Hydra Tech will be doing work and will bring the list down by 22. There is still free money through MADEP and Tata & Howard has put together a proposal to request an additional \$124,000.00 to complete the service inventory. Of the 1,260 service connections we only have 2 galvanized lines to be replaced, 0 lead, the entire inventory of the system should be completed by June 2025

and then move on to doing the replacements. Asking if the board would like to entertain to approve the \$124,000.00. Per Chairman McGinn satisfied with the grant application and the contract amendment of the lead service line update and would be for and additional \$124,000.00. Commissioners Levesque motions to approve in the additional \$124,000.00. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in favor. Approved.

Chairman McGinn took time to look at the structure of the district and we will need to address some enabling acts next year. There will be more to come on this.

Subscriber Buteau asked about when met with MEMA for a grant opportunity can the water district still pursue it. Per Superintendent Morris it can, and it has not been announced when the opening of when it will be.

Subscriber Buteau also asked if there are any other grants. Per the Superintendent there is the One Stop grant that is pending.

- VII.** Date of Next Meeting: Commissioner Levesque motions to have the next hybrid meeting November 12, 2024, at 148 Henshaw St at 6:30 p.m. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in favor. Approved.
- VIII.** Adjournment: Commissioner Levesque motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Chairman McGinn. All in favor. Approved. The meeting ended at 7:40 p.m.