

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

**VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 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	LCAC
Robert H. Lemieux, Sr. Commissioner	1 – Non-Subscriber
Michael DellaCava, Commissioner - Absent	2-Subscriber
Benjamin J. Morris, Superintendent	
Jennifer Wood, Treasurer	
Cheryl Balkus, Recording Secretary	

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. **November 12, 2020** – Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve the minutes of November 12, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.

III. FINANCE

- A. **Approve the Warrant of November 12, 2020** – The amount of the warrant is \$2,830.57. Consisting of Accounting Fees. Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the warrant of November 12, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.

- B. **Approve the Warrant of December 10, 2020** – The amount of the warrant is \$27,839.34. Consisting of Electricity, Upper Blackstone \$27,575.50, Legal & overpayment. Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve the warrant of December 10, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.

- C. **November Bank Transfer** Commissioner DellaCava motioned transfer \$35.59 Water funds deposited to Sewer to Water online collections account. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in Favor. Approved.

D. Treasurer Report – Per Treasurer Wood

Fiscal YTD Gain \$164,031.50
FY Revenue \$349,691.18 FY Expenses \$185,659.68

November Revenue: \$65,300.18
Expenses: \$13,857.23
Month Gain: (loss) \$51,442.95

Operating Budget (does not include debt service)
Amount needed to collect for Operating Budget FY21 \$583,477.25
Amount collected to date: \$349,691.18
Still required: \$233,789.07

Upcoming Operation Expenses still due for FY 21

Left in FY 21' Budget (does not include CVRWD Service Agreement) \$57,059.00

Upper Blackstone: \$55,151.00

City of Worcester: \$210,509.38 (estimated)

CVRWD Service Agreement: \$75,098.19

Total: \$397,817.57

Total Betterments expected to be collected for FY 21': \$88,869.67

November Betterments received: \$1,925.59

Total Collected: \$51,702.48

Left to collect for FY 21': \$46,895.51

Betterments Loan Payments Due

December 2020: \$128,059.00

March 2021: \$76,066.00

April 2021: \$105,963.00

Total: \$310,028.00

Betterment Summary (Payments Collected vs Loan Payment)
(\$258,325.52)

FY 20' compared to FY21'

FY 20' (\$176,280.51)

FY 21' \$162,188.50

Est Payments the District still has for FY 21' \$707,855.57

Est amt to bring in from betterments (If everyone to pay) -\$46,895.51

Est amt from Liens: \$-9,231.83

Income from Revenue (if everyone pays bills) -\$508,851.73

Revenue collected but not yet expended including betterment -\$162,188.50

Currently estimating to be over by -\$19,313.00

Aged Receivables

0-90 days past due \$46,534.76

Over 90 days Past Due: \$25,516.36

Total: \$72,051.12

This report is also located on the CVRWD Website under Sewer

There were no comments about the Treasurer Report. Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.

IV. ADMINISTRATION – Nothing to Report

V. OPERATIONS –

A. Superintendent Report – Per Superintendent Morris a notice was sent in the monthly bills to the Subscribers regarding what is and what is not flushable. We still have some routing blockages/pump issues and to continue to watch.

Flow wise a significant amount from rain in the last month. There was a slight increase in flows through the sewer meter. This is a trend from November through March considering with weather and we need to target I/I repairs. Will do manhole inspections to keep eye on flows and determine problems with manholes structures or potential sump pumps.

We have been in contact with USDA and still awaiting more follow up to potentially to re amortization of the loan to extend 10 years or to see if they can lower the interest rate. This would be a more significant savings as opposed to extending the loan 10 years. Wanted to emphasize that this is a potential. It will not happen before our next loan payment that is due next week.

Commissioner Lemieux would like to propose to ask the USDA to lower the interest rate and to re amortize trying to lower our debt service. Will require more interest if extended 10 years but we should see a more significant decrease annually as doing both. They need to see an advantage to them and on our side to see our payment go down.

Per the Superintendent we need to get the interest rate lowered first that can generate more savings while working towards the re amortization. When looking at the re amortize would decrease payment but over the additional 10 years would cost the District an upwards an additional \$750,000.00

Per Commissioner Lemieux with the combination it will help their numbers look better and will offer his assistance to propose this. Perhaps offer 20 years even if we are to pay off sooner.

Per the Superintendent believes we will be hearing back from the USDA after the beginning of the year.

Per Chairman Manseau sewer flows sent over from the Upper Blackstone and has us at a 16% decrease in the last year. Great job on the I/I. Per Commissioner Lemieux suggests that it be made aware to the Subscribers of what success has been made to let them know that we have been physically been working on this and if we did not do this that the bills could be higher. Next year with the work being done with the solutions to go as problems are found will help to lower. There have been many efforts made in various ways to help in savings.

Subscriber Hickey also would like to see a notice go to the Subscribers to show what has been done with the associated savings because of what has been done.

Per the Superintendent Morris there are still a lot of moving parts to the re amortization and interest rate reduction of the loans until we get something signed, we do not know what that will be. We want start to put a breakdown until we have solid information from USDA.

Presently we are paying towards interest and principal

Non-subscriber Buteau asked what the current rates going at. Per the Superintendent he believes just over 1.5% and we are at 4.6%. Mr. Buteau agrees that this would be tremendous if it could happen. And to comment to Commissioner Lemieux he does not know if USDA would want to extend the loans out further if giving a lower int rate.

Per Commissioner Lemieux it would be advantageous to them of the compounding the interest over time. With lowering with the interest rate and financial projections we are taking money out of their pocket but extending the term the effect of that interest to them improves.

If we can pay it off earlier than the term would be the goal for the District. Lower exp lower debt we may be able to pay extra and be debt free faster.

Subscriber Hickey asked how many payers that have well accounts who are attached to the sewer. Per the Superintendent there are Approximately 15. There are no special rates. They are metered costs and there are flat per bedroom rate. Chairman Manseau commented about the customer who made a comment that the hope we rot in jail. Per Commissioner Lemieux, everyone has an opportunity to participate in meetings and wish that they would become part of the group and hope someone could have an idea to help or see what has been done. People will bad mouth electronically instead of being part of a making a positive change or the solution.

VI. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A. Approval of Next Meeting Date – Commissioner Lemieux motioned to hold the next Virtual Sewer Meeting January 14, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner Lemieux motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

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