

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

**MEETING MINUTES
November 14, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER Commissioner DellaCava called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the following present:
- Robert H. Lemieux, Sr. Commissioner Benjamin J. Morris, Superintendent
Michael DellaCava, Commissioner Cheryl Balkus, Recording Secretary
1 Subscriber 1 Non-Subscriber
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- A. **October 10, 2019** - Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the minutes of October 10, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.
- B. **October 29, 2019 Water/Sewer Audit Joint Meeting Minutes** - Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the minutes of October 10, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.
- III. FINANCE
- A. **Approve Warrants of October 17, 2019** – Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the warrants of October 17, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.
- B. **Approve Warrants of October 24, 2019** - Commissioner Lemieux inquired who Berry Insurance is. Per Superintendent Morris they are the District insurer for liability and properties. Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the warrants of October 24, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.
- C. **Approve Warrants of November 7, 2019** - Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the warrants of November 7, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.
- D. **Approve Warrants of November 14, 2019** - Commissioner Lemieux asked who GH Excavation is. Per Superintendent Morris they are the company used to do the manholes repair. Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve the warrants of November 14, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved.
- E. **October Bank Transfer** – Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the transfer of the water funds deposited to the sewer to the online collections account \$560.55 and \$42.46. Seconded by Commissioner Dellacava. All in Favor. Approved.
- F. **Loan Refinance** – Per Superintendent Morris he heard back from the State they went thru all the channels they could, and we cannot do the refinance due to too much liability involved at this time. Per Commissioner DellaCava this was discussed at the Joint Working Group Meeting and Representative Leboeuf is trying to see what he can do. Per Commissioner Lemieux is disappointed with this decision and commented what ramifications would there be if the loans were not being paid. Per Superintendent Morris unknown at this time and explains to Commissioner Lemieux a Bankruptcy Attorney was brought in to advise. Per the Bankruptcy Attorney under Massachusetts Law the Sewer District cannot file bankruptcy. Commissioner DellaCava also confirms that no one knows what would happen if the Sewer District did not pay the loans and perhaps the Sewer District should not pay to see what happens. Per Superintendent Morris believes that there would be fines and it would fall onto the Subscribers. The only loan refinance that USDA offered is if we borrow more money for the sewer, they will refinance all the loans at a longer term and may lower the Sewer Districts payments.

The question is how much needs to be borrowed to meet the requirement to do the refinance and if it could be reduced to the annual payment of \$150,000.00 instead of the \$300,000.00 that it is now might make it beneficial.
Inflow & Infiltration (I/I) is about 14 million gallons less than last year = \$53,000 January thru September.

IV. ADMINISTRATION

- A. **Hawley Equipment – Drain Layer Application** - Per Superintendent Morris Hawley Equipment did the sewer tie in for a vacant property located on Willow Hill Rd.

V. OPERATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report – Sargent St manholes are repaired. Superintendent Morris evaluated the brick and mortar that was in decent shape, touched up the mortar and reset the frame. However, the other three located on Brown St. and Sargent St. were in much worse shape. Superintendent Morris shows the Board photos of how poor of shape they were then shows after repair photos to the Board with the Pro Rings installed. He states that the product is a bit expensive, but it's supposed to last for 100 years. Currently there are four in the system done like this. Route 9 is satisfied with the Sewer manholes; drainage ones have some issues and the Superintendent believes the town has reached out to Mass DOT. Mass DOT has someone to come clean out the water gate boxes in the CVSD and the Town of Leicester District. Cleanouts of the water gate boxes will be during the day. The jetting of Route 9 will not be done by the State. Superintendent Morris did get a price that it would be \$1,600-\$1,800 per day, it would take approximately 4-5 days to do and would require police detail at \$50.00 per hour at 8 hours a day. There is not enough money in the budget to do. Flows spiked a bit in the past month of October the average of 45,000-55,000 per day increased to 70,000. The District for the first quarter from the City of Worcester was \$25,000. The tracking of the Inflow & Infiltration (I/I) January thru September the district billed out to customers was 14 million gallons of sewage and the city has billed for 25 million gallons. There is approximately 10 million gallons to find that is a work in progress and hope to target some areas before bad weather hits. RCAP is finalizing their report, the concern was regarding the Betterments. The CVSD Treasurer and the Superintendent received information from the town and ran a report to figure out how much money is owed to CVSD. There are 132 outstanding Betterments. The outstanding is not enough to pay off the loans. It appears that when the Betterments were set that they may not have been set at the correct amount, however more research of the records is to be done such as how much the amount of the sewer project was to determine how the Betterment amount was figured. Commissioner Lemieux requested from Superintendent Morris to research information further.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. **UBWPAD Update – Chairman Manseau absent – nothing to report.**

VII. PERSONNEL -

VIII. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- A. **Approval of Next Meeting Date** - Commissioner Lemieux motioned to approve the next meeting December 12, 2019 at 7:00 P.M at 148 Henshaw St. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.

IX. Executive Session

- A. To Review and approve executive session minutes of October 10, 2019. Commissioner Lemieux motions to approve the executive session minutes of October 10, 2019. Seconded by Commissioner DellaCava. All in favor. Approved.

- X. ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner DellaCava motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Lemieux. All in favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

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