

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

**MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER Chairman Manseau called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM with the following present:

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

2- Subscribers 1 -Non-Subscriber

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. **November 14, 2019** - Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve the minutes of November 14, 2019. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor. Approved.

III. FINANCE

- A. **Approve Warrants of December 5, 2019** – Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve the warrants of December 5, 2019. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor. Approved.

- B. **Approve Warrants of December 12, 2019** – Per Treasurer Wood no warrant.

- C. **November Bank Transfer** – Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve \$37.57 transfer of the water funds deposited to the sewer to the online collections account. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in Favor. Approved.

- D. **Treasurer Report** – Per Treasurer Jennifer Wood as of November 2019

Billed Revenue received \$41,237.30

Betterment/Liens received \$5,700.95

Other Reimbursements \$814.12

Total Revenue \$47,752.37

Expenditures \$11,294.44

Gain/Loss \$36,457.93.

FY20 total loss/gain to date \$73,762.99.

****This does not take into consideration the depreciation of assets. This results in the total loss a lot higher****

FY20 Remaining Budget \$92,945.81

Known expenses still due for FY20:

City of Worcester – Three payments remain - Amount unknown.

Upper Blackstone - Two payments remain for a total of \$53,374.50

Loan Payments – Three payments remain for a total of \$310,028.00

CVRWD Service Agreement – Two payments remain for a total of \$54,840.92

- IV. ADMINISTRATION – Nothing to report

V. OPERATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report – Per Superintendent Morris with the inclement weather it has not been kind to the Sewer District flows. It's nowhere near where the District was compared to last year. In the last three days the average use per day has been 180,000 gallons per day. Most of the day spent was opening manholes and checking on the ones that work was done to. Injection grout compound was used to slow it down, but the pressure of the water coming in exceeded it and would not hold. Three companies who specialize in these issues were contacted. Two responded immediately and one did not respond at all. Inland Waters from Johnston RI will be here next week to address the issues of the worst ones to fix. It will be interesting to see how much the flows should decrease once repairs are done by this company. The manholes are 16 ft deep. One is located at the dead end of Old Main St, Howard Terr/Brook St Intersection, South St. and to investigate two under the river at McCarthy Ave. If there are issues with McCarthy Ave. will address if necessary. The product being used is Acrylamide Grout that forms a hardened gel when it mixes with water. For us the District to purchase is not feasible, if this works the Sewer District will see the pay back within in the month. As of the second quarter of the fiscal year the District has done \$28,000.00 thru the City of Worcester. If the flows stay down, the District will be well below the \$67,000.00 that has been budgeted for. He believes that the biggest culprit is subscribers sump pumps being tied in. A notice was previously sent to the subscriber to make them aware that it's illegal to have sump pumps tied in. The Superintendent suggests that perhaps the District would need to place a sump pump charge to the subscriber bills. However, there are subscribers that do not have sump pumps connected and this would not be fair to them. For now, we do our best to try and knock down the (I/I) Inflow and Infiltration issues.

708 Main St has a new two-family house being constructed. This property has its own stub, when they opted to tie in, half being tied into the new manhole and the other into the existing stub. When the connection was being made to the stub it was found that the stub is in the incorrect direction. Per Superintendent Morris occurred as a result of the project not having oversight when the system was being constructed on Route 9. Greg Buteau provided some background history that went out to bid. Hoyle & Tanner came in when the Chairman temporarily stepped down, there was a time frame when there was not the best coverage. Per Superintendent Morris the owner of 708 Main St reached out to the Superintendent as this will cost the owner an additional \$2,000.00. Per Superintendent Morris explains a work around to make it work and asking the Board if there is some room to reduce the costs since the owner already paid for a Betterment and the stub cannot be used. Normally we would cut the road and fix the pipe and suggests the stub be abandoned and create a new one for this unit only. There are three more buildings going up that the owner will be paying \$48,000.00. Superintendent Morris asks the Board to consider waiving the inspection & application fee of \$600.00, provide rental of the core machine and the boot. Commissioner DellaCava motions to waive the fees to not to exceed \$1,250.00. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor Approved.

RCAP – we continue to work with RCAP. He and Treasurer Wood attended RCAP Asset Management Program training. RCAP to see if they can get the Sewer District a grant for a GIS system. In the meanwhile, an extensive amount of time researching information regarding the history of the sewer system and to compare research against RCAP information. Mr. Buteau asked if we were able to find the three contracts involved. Per Superintendent Morris actual contracts were not

found. Some records were destroyed because only required to keep records for 10 years. Mr. Buteau believes that he may have them, he will research and bring them in. Mr. Buteau asked if we were able to find out how the Betterment amount was determined. Per Superintendent we are still trying to find out how many were assessed because some were waived due to non-buildable lots, we can track 496 betterments as being assessed, trying to determine if they were all assessed at the same amount or not. In the beginning the City of Worcester was charging the District based on subscriber water consumption. Later a meter was installed to reflect what was actually being used, the consumption was much more than just the subscriber water consumptions. With this, the increase of the fees from the upgrades of the Upper Blackstone and not increasing rates is a the result of the Sewer District being in a deficit.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. **UBWPAD Update** – Per Chairman Manseau there is not much going on, he provided a draft sheet of the flows that the Upper Blackstone will be charging for. Superintendent Morris requested Chairman Manseau to ask at the next UBWPAD Meeting if they would consider instead of waiting at a three-year look of usage to consider a two-year history. With our situation the District could not be paying them at all perhaps they would consider. Chairman Manseau will ask at the next meeting that is being held December 18, 2019.

VII. PERSONNEL -

VIII. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- A. **Approval of Next Meeting Date** - Commissioner DellaCava motioned to approve the next meeting January 9, 2020 at 7:00 P.M at 148 Henshaw St. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor. Approved.

- IX. ADJOURNMENT – Commissioner DellaCava motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chairman Manseau. All in favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

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