

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT
TRUSTEES' MEETING
May 18th, 2020**

Present: Bruce Sawyer, Andrew Edson, Steve Dunn, Mitch Berkowitz, Joe Murray and Superintendent Jim Foster and three members of the public. President Sawyer called meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Previous Minutes: Second draft of April 20, 2020 minutes approved with one minor change. Vote to approve as amended was unanimous.

Agenda Change: Motion/second by Dunn/Berkowitz to consider agenda item #5 out of sequence to accommodate members of public attending to speak on this item. **Vote** to approve was unanimous.

Water Quality Complaint, 172 Mayall Rd:

Residents Clark and Jennette Taylor and family, Kelly Young attended to present information and to answer any questions regarding their previous complaint about sand/sediment in their water and costs incurred in relation to the problem. Lengthy discussion followed regarding time frame, specific issues/problems, actions taken by residents and GWD, costs and remedies sought. Taylors stated that recently completed main flushing appears to have resolved the issue. They are seeking restitution for cost of repairs and system filters. Taylors will submit available documentation of actual costs to GWD for review. Trustees further reviewed the circumstances of this problem and, though we had no clear evidence of any wrongful actions, it was felt that some type of resolution/amelioration would be appropriate. **Motion/second** by Berkowitz/Dunn to authorize President Sawyer, in consultation with Superintendent Foster, to review material submitted by the Taylors to determine if compensation is appropriate and, if so, what form it should take. **Vote** to approve was unanimous.

Superintendent's Report:

1. AGM for April was 263 reflecting main flushing activity
2. Bacterial tests were absent for E-coli and total coliform.
3. Oil/water separator testing cost increase of \$900 has been lowered to \$200 by the testing company. Town accepts. No further action required.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Landfill Test Well Results

Dunn reviewed the Town's latest annual report from Woodard and Curran. The report continues to show an upward trend in contaminants (arsenic, manganese, iron, etc) in a majority of the wells. It also shows similar upward trending in the background well located upgradient of the landfill cap. Further discussion deferred to next meeting to review additional material and determine course of action.

MDOT Route 100 work

Dunn reported on a letter from MDOT received by the Crossroads Church. Details are sketchy but letter notes "... improvements to Lewiston Rd beginning at Rt 26 and extending north 2.85 miles.". Project may have implications for our water infrastructure. Letter was from MDOT, Region 1 office in Scarborough. Signed by Thomas Patterson, Property Office Tech. (207)592-3777.

Action: Superintendent to contact MDOT for more detailed information.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rate Case:

Conference call was held with MRWA. Suggested changes to filing will be included. Public hearing date was set at August 19,2020. New schedule has been proposed by MRWA because the public hearing venue is unavailable for August 19th. MRWA proposed new schedule changes public hearing to July 16, 2020 and adjusts other milestone dates to coordinate. **Motion/second** by Berkowitz/Murray to approve revised schedule. **Vote** to approve was unanimous.

SCADA Controls System:

Previously discussed as part of information provided by Berkowitz under Trustee Reports. Superintendent follow up with current controls vendor indicates our current system can be converted to internet access for about \$650 plus internet provider subscription costs. Computer system upgrade to, at least, Windows 7 would be needed for enhanced control. Trustees feel a longer term upgrade to Windows 10 would be more cost effective. Edson noted that Woodard and Curran is a possible vendor source for upgrade evaluation.

Motion/second by Berkowitz/Dunn to authorize Superintendent to proceed with minor update to internet access. **Vote** to approve was unanimous

Action: Superintendent to implement the minimum cost upgrade.

Action: Superintendent to get ballpark estimate for more robust upgrade from current vendor.

Sanitary Survey:

Previously discussed under Superintendent's Report.

Updates on major issues identified in the Sanitary Inspection Report:

- All of required 24 months of MOR reports have been completed and submitted on schedule.
- Flushing of mains completed May 13th. Required directional flushing plan was developed based on actual experience during this process.
- Lead containing parts are being removed from old meters and held to be scrapped.

Four recommendations remain without specific deadline dates.

- Master plan update
- Develop and implement valve exercise program
- Wellhead protection plan (possibly part of Master Plan)
- Inspection of Dry Mills tank

North Raymond Road Project:

Start date for project delayed for 30 days ±. DOT is seeking another contractor to do the directional boring for water line under the stream. Gorrill and Palmer is set to do twice daily oversight inspections once water line work begins. Random visits by three GWD staff will be implemented throughout the water line work.

Superintendent provided official document prepared by Curtis Thaxter firm to facilitate project funding bond through Municipal Bond Bank:

(1) That, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 33 of the Private and Special Laws of Maine, 1929, as last amended and supplemented by the provisions of Chapter 11 of the Private and Special Laws of Maine, 2001, a public water improvement project consisting of a water main replacement on North Raymond Road/Route 26, including water mains and associated apparatus, a river crossing of mains and infrastructure improvements if money is available from the sum herein appropriated, in the Town of Gray (the “Project”) by the Gray Water District is hereby authorized and approved;

(2) To fund said project, a sum not to exceed Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) is hereby appropriated;

(3) To meet said appropriation, the issuance of bonds or notes of the Gray Water District (including temporary notes in anticipation of the sale thereof) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) is hereby authorized and approved and the Treasurer and the President of the Board of Trustees are hereby authorized to execute and deliver said securities on behalf of the Gray Water District with discretion to fix the date(s), maturity(ies), interest rate(s), denominations(s), place(s) of payment, form and other details of said securities and to provide for the sale thereof; and

(4) Application to the Maine Public Utilities Commission and the execution and filing such application by the Treasurer of the Gray Water District for the approval of issue of securities by the Gray Water District up to Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) aggregate principal amount of bonds is hereby authorized and approved.

(5) In anticipation of issuance of the bonds for the Project, the Gray Water District hereby adopts its Declaration of Official Intent with respect to the reimbursement of certain expenditures which may be made with respect to the Project from the proceeds of the bonds.

(6) The Gray Water District is authorized to apply to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank (“MMBB”) a loan of \$400,000.

(7) The Treasurer and the President of the Board of Trustees are hereby authorized and empowered to do or cause to be done all such acts and things, and to execute and deliver all such certificates and documents, as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose and intent of this vote for the sale by the Gray Water District of up to Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) aggregate principal amount of the bonds of the District as aforesaid.

Motion/second by Berkowitz/Dunn to approve seven part resolution as prepared by Curtis Thaxter (copy attached and made part of these minutes). **Vote** to approve was unanimous.

Line of Credit:

Sawyer determined that Key Bank offered the best opportunity for a short-term line of credit to cover operational costs as needed during project work. **Motion/second** by Dunn/Murray to authorize Sawyer to establish \$50,000 line of credit with Key Bank with two signature requirement. **Vote** to approve was unanimous.

UPDATE: Key Bank has approved the requested line of credit.

PFAS Water Quality Testing:

Test results received from Sevee and Maher show good result. Suggestion made to put the letter result and some basic info up on our web site.

Action: Murray to work with Sudiek on web site posting.

NOAA Request for Water Service:

Waiting for survey cost estimates from Gorrill and Palmer to provide to NOAA along with our requirement for 100% of funding in advance of any obligations by GWD.

Sawyer spoke with New Gloucester Water Superintendent and Town Manager. There were no issues regarding GWD routing to service the NOAA site. The possible need to contact No. Yarmouth Water was discussed

Action: Superintendent to provide info to NOAA when estimates received.

Action: Superintendent to contact Yarmouth Water District to determine if any issues regarding this project.

Request for Service, Valley High Rd:

Resident has previously requested service directly from East Gray well line which would require overland access across U Maine Foundation land as a minimum condition. Resident request to U Maine has been declined. There may or may not be further activity on the request.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Salt Level Testing, Rt 26A:

Spring testing results received from Sevee and Maher and distributed to trustees. Discussion deferred to next meeting due to lateness of the hour.

Fire Department Antenna MOU:

Item brought forward from Outstanding Item list for completion.

Action: Murray and Superintendent to update and process through for final signature.

Review of Outstanding Items List:

List reviewed for accuracy and currency. Flag pole removed from list and MOU moved to active status. Remainder approved as listed.

Executive Session:

Trustees determined an executive session is needed to discuss protected personnel matters. Scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

OTHER:

Next scheduled meeting: June 15, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

Adjournment: Motion/second by Murray/Dunn. Vote unanimous. Meeting adjourned 10:37PM

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

- Town sidewalk project
- Route 100 TIF
- Position descriptions/Performance standards
- Planning for the future/CIP programming
- G.I.S.
- Utility Service CO-Dry Mills standpipe
- Relocation of office
- Search for new water source

Respectfully submitted;
Joe Murray, Clerk