

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT
TRUSTEES MEETING
December 19, 2022
Location: 80 Shaker Rd**

Present: Bruce Sawyer, Mitch Berkowitz, Joe Murray, Mike MacDonald, John Roy and Superintendent Bill Gardner. Bruce called meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Average gallons per day (AGD) for pumps 1&2 was 316,709. AGD for Pump 3 was 80,452. Pumps 1 & 2 were run 30 days. Pump 3 was run 8 days.
2. Monthly samples for November were absent of bacteria.
3. On 11/30 Pemberton Gourmet Foods called to report discolored water. This is the third time this year. We were able to remedy the issue with flushing but this will continue happening until we get the main on Lewiston Rd replaced.
4. We found and repaired two meter pit leaks; 200 Portland Rd & 82 Depot Rd.
5. On 12/5 MDOT did some soil borings at the Mobil gas station in the village. They are checking for contaminated soil. MDOT has also decided not to do the catch basins on Depot Rd because there's too much ledge.
6. Merrill Excavation repaired the road at Pump Station 3. The road was damaged during a storm in October.
7. On 12/6 Stump Surgeons removed 5 stumps and the telephone pole stump that were located behind the office. We now have a clear area for plowing.
8. We received a water quality complaint from Magnolia Dr. It is the white sand issue again and it will continue to be an issue until we replace the cement lined piece of main on Yarmouth Rd. The customer was given this information and told that we will flush anytime it pops up so to just give us a call.
9. All staff attended the Annual Maine Rural Water Association (MRWA) Conference & Trade Show in Rockport December 6th through the 8th. The classes were excellent and we all learned a lot and made some good contacts.
10. On 12/14 Utilitronics Corporation came to the office to demonstrate leak detection/locating equipment that we are purchasing from them. Staff received training on the new equipment. We are trading in our existing service locators and will be receiving a credit towards our new ones.
11. Cummins Northeast, the company that performs our bi-annual generator inspections, is working up a quote for a new generator for the pumps here at 80 Shaker Rd. Our existing generator for pumps 1 & 2 is so old that we cannot get parts anymore and we were advised not to exercise it.
12. Tyler Credit will be returning part time this winter to do some GIS work for us.
13. On December 15th we found a broken hydrant on Collyer Brook Rd. The damage was not reported to us. It looks like it was hit by something large.
14. There is a meeting scheduled with the Town Manager tomorrow. They want to talk about future projects.

OLD BUSINESS:

Landfill Test Well Results:

Ransom Engineering, the firm hired by the Town to compile water sampling data, wants historical data back to 1990. We have reached out to Sevee & Maher Engineers (SME) for help with that.

ACTION: None

TIF-Town Project Discussions:

The Town has moved the Route 115 project to the forefront. We met with Town representatives last week to talk about costs and funding options. There is another grant we can apply for which may help with the remaining cost after the TIF funds the Town will be providing.

ACTION: None

Turnpike Crossing / West Gray Rd Main Replacement Projects:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None.

PFAS:

Superintendent Gardner reported that he attended classes at the MRWA conference regarding PFAS. The teachers were from the Maine Drinking Water Program and the Environmental Protection Agency. Test results from 2-20 PPT are considered the detect category which means we will have to sample annually. Gray Water District was already performing this testing. Draft regulations are coming in 2023, there will be a comment period then final rules will come in 2024. At this time GWD has done everything we are required to do and we are staying up to date on information so we can apply for funding as soon as it's offered.

Sodium Silicate Treatment:

Superintendent Gardner and Trustee MacDonald are looking into a new chemical feed pump to continue sodium silicate injection at Pump Station 3.

ACTION: None at this time.

MWUA Grant Writing Assistance:

After the December ZOOM conference with the MWUA contractor, Superintendent Gardner and the Trustees decided to pursue a more in-house approach with other assistance as needed.

ACTION: Joe to notify the contractor of this decision via email.

YWD Well Pumping Test Site:

Superintendent Gardner reported that he spoke to the Superintendent of YWD at the MRWA conference and they decided they will start meeting to discuss next steps over the winter.

ACTION: None.

State Land Water Source:

Nothing new.

ACTION: None.

Hydrant Policy:

Trustee MacDonald reported that Trustee Murray finished editing the policy and it has been sent to the Fire Chief for comment. Superintendent Gardner spoke to the interim Public Works Director about it.

ACTION: None

Dry Mills Radio Tower:

Superintendent Gardner will be meeting with the Fire Chief on Wednesday to go over details and do a site walk. We will need to do another MOU with the Town for the new antenna.

ARPA Grants:

Our Engineering firm is still working on numbers for our list of projects.

Annual COLA:

Trustees were given calculation spreadsheets for 6,7 & 8% before the meeting.

Motion/Second by Berkowitz/Murray to give Staff a 6% increase in pay affective January 1st 2023.

Motion by Roy to amend the motion and give staff an 8% increase. No second, motion to amend dies.

Motion/Second by MacDonald/Berkowitz to amend original motion to give staff a 7% increase. Vote to approve amendment was unanimous. Vote to approve original motion as amended was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Still Ridge Dr. Water Service:

Superintendent Gardner reported that the new owner of a large piece of land off Mayall Rd approached him about running a private line to prospective lots on Still Ridge, a private Drive off Mayall. After a brief discussion Trustees agreed that a water main extension would be necessary to serve any additional lots.

MRWA Board Training:

Superintendent Gardner discussed personalized board training that could be done here at the office for all Trustees to attend. Trustees agreed that training would be beneficial.

Superintendent Gardner will try to schedule it for January 10th.

ACTION: Superintendent to email Trustees with date and time once scheduled.

Income Survey:

Superintendent Gardner explained that an income survey could help us with being awarded future grants if we are able to prove that our population served is “disadvantaged”. The survey itself would be done by a team who would go door-to-door until they acquire 225 valid, complete surveys. Usually, it takes visiting 360-405 homes to accomplish that. The project could cost up to \$40,000. Trustees agreed to discuss this further during Trustee training.

SRF Grant:

Superintendent Gardner reported that we were awarded a \$23,000 grant through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) for engineering costs for West Gray Rd. We would have to open up a line of credit with our bank for \$23,000 then we would be reimbursed.

Motion/Second by Murray/ Berkowitz to authorize Superintendent Gardner to open the line of credit at Androscoggin Bank in order to receive grant funds. Vote was unanimous.

OTHER:

Next scheduled regular meeting: January 23, 2023 @ 6:00 PM.

Adjournment: 8:28 pm.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

- 2022.04 Storm Water & Spill Prevention Plans
- Route 100 TIF (South)
- Planning for the future/CIP programming
- G.I.S.
- Search for new water source

Respectfully submitted,

Sudiek Lester, Office Manager