

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT
TRUSTEES MEETING
March 20, 2023
Location: 80 Shaker Rd**

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

Superintendent's Report:

1. Average gallons per day (AGD) for pumps 1&2 was 381,214. AGD for Pump 3 was 76,196.
2. Monthly samples for February were absent of bacteria.
3. On 3/2 Pete from MRWA came down and helped rebuild the chemical feed pump at Pump Station 3. We also were able to get the back pressure valve working.
4. On 3/16 a gentleman from Virginia was interviewed by phone. He is moving to Maine with family and has a class II license. He ended up taking a job closer to his home before his second, in person, interview with us.
5. On 3/14 we had a meeting with Dave Ouellette of MDOT regarding the drainage on Main St. This is a project that has been on and off for a couple years now but it sounds like it's definitely on for June. We have 15 valves to deal with during this project and Bowdoin Excavation will do that work for us. The paving moratorium that comes with DOT laying new pavement will not affect us on Yarmouth Rd work being planned under the Rt 115 project.
6. Our attorney, Jim Costello of Curtis Thaxter, drafted two new water utility easement documents for us to use. One for private property owners and one for business owners.

OLD BUSINESS:

Landfill Test Well Results:

Superintendent Gardner reported that Ransom has not responded yet with landfill closure information that was requested.

ACTION: None.

TIF-Town Project Discussions:

Trustees and Superintendent discussed the Route 115/Yarmouth Rd project; specifically, 12" vs 16" water main. Superintendent Gardner, Trustee MacDonald, and Trustee Berkowitz will attend a meeting with the Town on Thursday March 23rd to discuss further.

ACTION: Trustees and Superintendent to report back to board.

Turnpike Crossing / West Gray Rd Main Replacement Projects:

Superintendent Gardner reported that he is attending online classes to learn the process for utilizing the Federal funds received through Senator Susan Collins office.

ACTION: None.

YWD Well Pumping Test Site:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None.

State Land Water Source:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None.

Hydrant Policy:

The policy is in place.

ACTION: Office Manager to send a copy of the policy to the Fire Chief and the acting head of Public Works.

Dry Mills Radio Tower:

Nothing new to report.

ACTION: None.

ARPA Grants:

Lewiston Rd project: Cumberland County Government will be having two more meetings before making recommendations to the County Commissioner for a decision on final project selection.

ACTION: None

Gerald's Way Main Extension:

Scott Dugas will be doing the work. We are awaiting payment from Scott Dugas for parts being purchased through E.J. Prescott.

Spill and Stormwater Plan reports:

Reports still pending receipt from the Town.

ACTION: Office manager to follow-up with the Town

John Merrill Project:

Trustee MacDonald reported that he did meet with Mr. Merrill about his project. Mr. Merrill is now in talks with the Town. There is a lot for them to work out before this project goes forward and water is needed.

ACTION: none

Pineland Water System:

Superintendent Gardner located a copy of the Pineland records on water and hydrant shutoff valves. It is mostly hand-drawn sketches and is somewhat dated but does provide a basic starting point. There are many questions regarding the degree of involvement from Pineland ownership. Further discussions with Yarmouth Water and Pineland officials are needed.

ACTION: Superintendent Gardner to continue discussions with Yarmouth Water

Income Survey:

We have a proposal from Maine Rural Water to conduct the income survey in Gray to help us qualify for various grants and supplemental funding. The survey itself is eligible for partial funding under a Capacity Development grant from the Drinking Water Program.

ACTION: Superintendent Gardner to file for grant to complete this survey

NEW BUSINESS:

Flycatcher, LLC. Solar Project Discussion Request:

Superintendent Gardner presented a letter we received in the mail requesting a discussion about a solar farm on our land across the street from our office. Trustees discussed that we purchased that land to protect our well and that there is a party that has rights to hay the land for now so we will not give permission for any development there.

ACTION: Superintendent Gardner to notify company that GWD is not interested at this time.

Injection/Treatment Facility: We have received a budget estimate from Wright Ryan for an addition to the pumphouse to house new piping to bring our injection system above ground and to provide space for future PFAS treatment systems. We also have received a design cost proposal from Gorrill Palmer and a piping cost estimate from EJP. The total cost is substantial and will require grant funding to be able to accomplish.

ACTION: Further discussion needed.

Yarmouth Water District Solar Farm:

Superintendent Gardner reported that Yarmouth Water District is considering a private solar farm that we could share in. We will be meeting to discuss further but a meeting date has not been set yet.

ACTION: Superintendent Gardner to report back when he knows more.

Employee Review:

Motion/Second by MacDonald/Murray to go into executive session per MRSA405(6)(A) to discuss personnel matters at 7:45 pm. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Motion/Second by Murray/MacDonald to come out of executive session at 8:12pm. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Action taken as a result of executive session:

Motion/Second by Murray/Roy to authorize Trustee MacDonald to meet with Superintendent Gardner to provide a merit increase.

9OTHER:

Next scheduled regular meeting: April 24, 2023 @ 6:00 PM.

Adjournment: 8:20 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