

DATE OF MEETING: November 9, 2023

PLACE OF MEETING: Village Hall

KIND OF MEETING: Business

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Lauri Taylor
Commissioner Jerry Locascio
Commissioner Burweger
Commissioner Stephen Pezzella
Commissioner Arthur Guzzo
Commissioner Phil DeRosa
Town of Pawling Alternate – Jim McCarthy

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner James Schmitt

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Justin Kadish, Waste Water Treatment Plant via phone-in

At 7:00 p.m. the Business Meeting of the Pawling Joint Sewer Commission was called to order by Chairperson Lauri Taylor with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION by Commissioner Guzzo to approve the October, 2023 Business Meeting Minutes as presented, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

MOTION by Commissioner Locascio to approve the October 2023 Treasurer's Report as presented. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

MOTION by Commissioner Guzzo to approve the October 2023 Voucher's Report as presented. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

MOTION by Chairperson Taylor to approve transfer of \$50,186.32 from O&M Acct. ending in 0030 to Checking Acct. ending in 0190 to pay the October 2023 Vouchers. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

MOTIONED by Chairperson Taylor to approve the transfer of \$87,591.01 from Capital Acct. ending in 0000 to Checking Acct. ending in 0190 for final payment of the West Main Street Pump Station Upgrade & \$600.00 to pay NY Rural Water Association. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

REF. # 71.23 – Chairperson Taylor said she wasn't inclined to grant a waiver of penalty and asked if this was the person that had one of these previously. Christine responded that she did have a penalty once before. Commissioner Locascio asked if she paid the previous penalty – Christine said she had paid it. Chairperson Taylor again said she wasn't inclined to grant the waiver. Commissioner Locascio said it's difficult to give waivers to everyone – we want to help everyone, but everyone has to pay their bills. Commissioner Burweger said he was also opposed to granting the waiver as well as was Commissioner Guzzo. **MOTIONED** by Chairperson Taylor

to deny waiver of sewer penalty in the amount of \$43.88 for Customer # 10111. **SECONDED** by Commissioner DeRosa. There was no further discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

REF. # 72.23 - MOTION by Commissioner DeRosa to deny waiver of sewer penalty in the amount of \$26.15 for Customer # 10328. **SECONDED** by Town of Pawling Alternate McCarthy. There was no further discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

REF. # 73.23 & 74.23 – 2024 Draft Budget – Chairperson Taylor said if you look at our current Budget, 2023 you can see we took a beating in a couple of areas, as you are aware we had some major grease issues in the trunk line and we had multiple backups of sewer where we had to have emergency call-outs to vac. all of that out and we had storm events where we had to get assistance and multiple repair issues. Commissioner Locascio asked if those areas mentioned come out of different lines of the Budget – Chairperson Taylor responded that they did. Chairperson Taylor continued, you will see there are some red ones where we exceeded so we are going to be moving some funds around from the lines that aren't going to get used up – we are still going to fall a little short, but I think moving into next year we will be in a better position hopefully with the new rate system that we are looking at. In the proposed 2024 Budget we looked at the last couple of years and compared it to this past year and knowing that these really radical storm events we've had were really unexpected and I don't think anyone was aware of how bad that grease situation was in the trunk line & that has been a tremendous hit to our Budget trying to clean that situation up. We still have repairs & equipment needed for the sewer plant, but we are hoping that maybe there is some grant funding that we can try to get. We will set the Public Hearing date for our next meeting. Chairperson Taylor also said she felt this was not the time for the Commissioners to receive an increase in compensation and felt it would only be fair to keep the compensation for the Commissioners as they are now with the increases we are putting on our tax payers, however Christine has worked extremely hard for us, and with all of the extra work she has taken on Chairperson Taylor thought Christine should receive some compensation & Chairperson Taylor proposed a 5% increase to her salary and leaving the Commissioners at the same rate they are at now. Commissioner Locascio asked if we are looking at having the Public Hearing at the next meeting – Chairperson Taylor responded yes. Commissioner Locascio asked if the Budget needs to be approved by the next meeting – Chairperson Taylor responded yes. Chairperson Taylor said the Commissioners have a month to review the Budget and ask any questions that they have as well as answering any questions the public may have. Commissioner DeRosa asked if there is anything in the Budget to take care of the issue we have with the I&I at Trinity Pawling – Chairperson Taylor said that would be Trinity Pawling's issue and said that while Dan Stone was here for the week, they were going to try and have a meeting with Trinity Pawling to discuss their options – Dan Stone said we had implemented a program to televise sewers on Trinity Pawling and to also monitor flow from Trinity Pawling. Chairperson Taylor asked for a motion to close the meeting. **MOTIONED** by Commissioner Burweiger to close the regular business meeting. **SECONDED** by Commissioner DeRosa. There was no further discussion; all were in favor, motion carried. There was no attendance by the public at this meeting. Time 7:40 PM.

Jerry Locascio, Secretary