

DATE OF MEETING: October 13, 2016
PLACE OF MEETING: Pawling Village Hall, 9 Memorial Ave., Pawling, NY
KIND OF MEETING: Business
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Daniel Peters
John Burweger
David Kelly
Robert Liffland
Stan Mersand
Earl Slocum
CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Gary Fotopoulos from Severn Trent Services

At 7:00 p.m. the business meeting of the Pawling Joint Sewer Commission was called to order by Chairman Daniel Peters with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOVED by Commissioner Kelly to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2016 regular business meeting as presented. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. All were in favor and motion carried.

MOVED by Commissioner Mersand to approve the September 2016 Treasurer's Report as presented. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kelly. All were in favor and motion carried.

MOVED by Commissioner Mersand to approve payment of the September 2016 Vouchers as presented and October prepaid vouchers. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kelly. All were in favor and motion carried.

New Business

MOVED by Commissioner Mersand to approve transfer of \$5,939.49 from Castagna Escrow Acct.#811000160 to O&M MMA #811000030 to pay engineering vouchers. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. All were in favor and motion carried.

MOVED by Commissioner Kelly to approve a penalty waiver of \$31.33 to sewer customer #471A as requested in letter ref.#10716. Linda Murray said the water penalty was waived on this account at the last Village Board Meeting. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Mersand. All were in favor and motion carried.

MOVED by Commissioner Mersand to approve a penalty waiver of \$34.08 to sewer customer #025 as requested in letter ref.#11216. Chairman Peters read the letter. Commissioner Mersand asked Linda Murray if the customer always paid on time. Linda said yes. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Kelly. All were in favor and motion carried.

Current Projects

WWTP Improvement Project –

Chairman Peters said they are moving forward with the Belt Press but the expansion project is on hold for the time being until they can see if they can get some grant money.

Cedar Valley –

Chairman Peters said they've been talking about this for some time and they're basically right back in the same situation. Meters are not getting read. A lot of them. The difference in the water actually used and the water amount that was actually billed is 267,413 gallons per quarter. He said if you figure that, just a rough estimate, they are losing about \$10,000 a year.

He said they talked about it numerous times over the past couple of years about resolving this issue but nothing has happened. We've got to get this resolved.

We also have 21 customers in Sewer Dist. No. 1 that are being billed minimum bills just because they don't have water meters. He said he tried to get the attorneys together and he was told that the Town Supervisor has not given authority for that to happen. He doesn't know where to go next on this but they have to start working on it to get it resolved. We are losing money and it's not fair to the other customers at all who are all paying their fare share.

Commissioner Kelly said he doesn't know who told Chairman Peters that he didn't authorize it because he did talk to Terry Stewart about the two attorneys talking together and there was language back and forth with some emails also that he can pull up, that they had the authorization to talk amongst themselves.

Chairman Peters said if that's the case he will get on it tomorrow.

Commissioner Kelly said the emails were between the two attorneys talking about the legality of things to advise the Town Board on what they need to do.

Flow meter in SM #4 –

Chairman Peters said they don't have anything to report on this.

Commissioner Kelly asked if this is the flow meter that was put at Cedar Valley.

Chairman Peters asked Gary from Severn Trent if he knows anything about this meter, and if it has been moved.

Gary said they are currently trying to find out from Zarecki's office.

Commissioner Kelly said that this flow meter originally started out at Cedar Valley by the golf course. He doesn't ever remember getting numbers from this meter. He said every time it's been discussed there is always some other reason why they've never gotten numbers for it and part of that calculation for Cedar Valley was to deal with those flow numbers and we have not seen them. He said that part of the conversation they are to have with Cedar Valley has to do with that flow meter that has been in for well over a year, and the Commission has even authorized the purchase of a new meter so that this one can stay there.

Chairman Peters said he does agree but also a part of the reason for that meter was to investigate I&I to which some degree was addressed. He said he will find out tomorrow from Joe Zarecki.

SSES and I/I – Video, cleaning, repairs –

Chairman Peters said he thinks they are finished with the videoing and asked Gary about it.

Gary said this would be another questions for Joe Zarecki to report on.

Income Survey –

Chairman Peters said the income survey is complete. He said they received a very good report. He said that is one part of the equation that will lead them to zero percent interest rate.

2017 Budget –

Chairman Peters said he started working on the 2017 budget. He still has to sit down with the consultants for their input and if anyone has any advice or input, please feel free to let him know.

Billing Software Investigation –

Commissioner Burweger asked Linda if she has had any opportunity to initiate some calls. Linda said no she hasn't.

Chairman Peters said they haven't found anybody yet that will support what they have. He said the only way we can update software is to change the calculation.

Consultant Reports

Attorney Report – No attorney present. No report submitted.

Engineering Report – No engineer present. No report submitted.

Sewer Plant Operator Report – Gary said they installed a system which is designed to handle the odor issues they've had. He said they also ordered some, what they call odor socks, and that should be in soon and that is to help with odor.

Commissioner Mersand said that he was at the plant about 6 weeks ago and at that time Gary explained to him some of the atmospheric conditions that cause odor. He said he forgot what those were and asked Gary to explain them to the board.

Gary explained that especially at this time, in the Fall, the early morning fog is so dense that the odors accumulate and as temps warm up it literally just travels its way across Route 22. He said by the time the sun hits midday, they have no odors at the plant.

Chairman Peters said that Trinity Pawling School is a very prestigious school and they've had some important events in the past month, parent's day and orientation and we've gotten phone calls about odor.

Gary said they covered everything they possibly can cover, cleaned filters and are doing everything they possibly can to cut down those odors.

Commission Member Comments

Commissioner Mersand commended Chairman Peters, Mike Batz and the representatives from Trinity Pawling School for dealing with the odor issue as quickly as they did in a relatively inexpensive manner. Hopefully the issue will be resolved.

Commissioner Mersand said he wants to explain just how important the income survey was in getting the income down. As a result of that survey it has generated interest in two national companies coming in with supermarkets. He said tomorrow morning he has a meeting, along with the owner of the Pawling Commons, with a major company out of Kansas City that at first were a little skeptical and then when they got the emails of the income survey numbers they couldn't come quickly enough. And this afternoon he received an email from another company as a result of the survey. They have an appointment for next week to come.

He doesn't know if either one of them will wind up taking it but he does know that now as a result of that income study we have two very interested parties that may develop in new business and, there is a good chance they will be able to get low interest financing.

MOVED by Commissioner Mersand to close the meeting and adjourn. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. All were in favor and motion carried. Time: 7:17 p.m.

Stan Mersand, Secretary