

DATE OF MEETING: June 8, 2023

PLACE OF MEETING: Village Hall

KIND OF MEETING: Business

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Lauri Taylor  
Commissioner James Schmitt  
Commissioner John Burweger  
Commissioner Stephen Pezzella  
Commissioner Arthur Guzzo

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Locascio

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: David Daniels, Esq. & Dan Stone, LaBella

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 Burweger to approve the May 11, 2023 Business Meeting Minutes as presented, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schmitt. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

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

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

**MOTION** by Chairperson Taylor to approve transfer of \$61,588.33 from O&M Acct. ending in 0030 to Checking Acct. ending in 0190 to pay May 2023 Vouchers, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

**MOTION** by Chairperson Taylor to move \$200.00 from Publication Line # 81104.6 to Collection System Maintenance & Repair Line # 13043.4 – **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schmitt. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

**MOTION** by Chairperson Taylor to move \$800.00 from Water Line # 13041.5 to Collection System Maintenance & Repair Line # 13043.4 – **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schmitt. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

**MOTION** by Chairperson Taylor to move \$300.00 from Telephone & Internet Line # 13041.4 to Collection System Maintenance & Repair Line # 13043.4 – **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schmitt. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

**MOTION** by Chairperson Taylor to move \$379.15 from Sludge Line # 13041.6 to Collection System Maintenance & Repair Line # 13043.4 – **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schmitt. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Burweger to Approve Village of Pawling to serve as SEQR Lead Agency – MTA Trunk line Sewer Replacement Project Environmental (SEQRA) Review. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Guzzo. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Schmitt to Approve Ref. # 33.23 – Proposal for additional work regarding West Main Street Pump Station in the amount of \$8,983.96. Chairperson Taylor explained this amount will be taken from the Contingency Line of the project and will not increase the actual project cost. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. There was no further discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

Chairperson Taylor opened a discussion regarding the Trailer Mounted Generac Generator located at the WWTP and asked Christine to explain what happened with this particular generator. Christine said H.A. Schreck was out to do the maintenance on the various pump station generators and found that this generator wouldn't start. Justin from the WWTP added that they did get the machine to start, but as soon as the machine started, there was smoke coming out of the alternator and they shut it back down. Chairperson Taylor asked if this generator is on some sort of schedule where it gets started every month, Justin answered saying this is an old generator that has just been sitting there for a long time. Christine spoke with H.A. Schreck and was told that they could take the generator back to their shop and trouble shoot what the issues were. They also advised that this is an older generator, and parts are becoming obsolete. Commissioner Burweger said it's a good generator and felt that we should look into having it repaired and keep it as a backup. Commissioner Burweger will contact H.A. Schreck to discuss.

Chairperson Taylor asked Commissioner Schmitt if he had any updates regarding Castagna – Commissioner Schmitt replied that he had not spoken with them recently and asked Dan Stone if he had any information. Mr. Stone said Jeff had been out to the site about two weeks ago and they had not installed the septic tanks as of yet, but they expect them to be in next week or the week after and Jeff will make an appointment to be there when they go in, but the site work is progressing.

Chairperson Taylor asked Dan Stone for an update on the West Main Street Pump Station. Mr. Stone explained that the board we repurposed had a failed VFD so the Contractor (Foremost Electric) contacted one of his Sub-Contractors to give a price on fixing the VFD which he believed to be the \$8,983.96 the Commission had just approved and it's in the process of being scheduled.

Chairperson Taylor asked Commissioner Schmitt for a progress report on the ASPCA project. Commissioner Schmitt and Mr. Stone said all of their approvals were in place. Mr. Stone added that he needed to contact their engineer because part of what we required that they do is to get PJSC a permit to modify the Castagna Pump Station adding an air pollution control bed and so the idea was they would be responsible to get approval from DOT so we need what is called an occupancy permit. The agreement that Mr. Stone had with the ASPCA was that they would get the permits and then we would figure out how to put the bio-filter in which will take care of the entire district, not just the ASPCA. Commissioner Schmitt asked Mr. Stone if they had ever said how long the building process would be. Mr. Stone said it sounded like they were anxious to get it going. Commissioner Schmitt said they have a Bond in place for the tree work that they did and he knows that they pulled the plans back a little bit for budgetary reason on this one and he thought for

one in Ohio, but everything is done on the Town's end and they have the green light to go, so hopefully they will get started soon.

Chairperson Taylor asked Dave Daniels if he had anything to discuss, Mr. Daniels declined.

Chairperson Taylor asked Dan Stone for his engineer's report. Mr. Stone said that he, Chairperson Taylor, Commissioner Schmitt & the Operators had met earlier that day at the WWTP to go over some items that have undergone some deferred maintenance. They really need to be done, but we have collectively kicked the can on this longer than we should have. The result of this meeting that we had there will be a list in priority order with estimates of what it will cost to get them done and whether there are pre-requisites in the list to get them done and there are 10-12 items on the list and they aren't all trivial and some of them really need to be done. Mr. Stone said he finished the list today and will wait for the Operators to give the thumb up that he is on track, he will then share it with Chairperson Taylor & Commissioner Schmitt. Chairperson Taylor asked Mr. Stone if he had broken the list down to the three categories that they had talked about – the ones that are priority now, the ones that we can plan on for in the next budget, and then a wish list of items that we would like to do if we can get some grant dollars. Mr. Stone said there are one, two & three priorities, and there is a whole bunch on three.

Mr. Stone then said he had mentioned to the Village Board on Monday night that it is highly unlikely that we will have in place a new rate system by the September billing as there are some issues we need to work out between the Village & the Town & the Pawling Joint Sewer Commission. Ron (LeBerge) had shared his calculations of what he thought would be the cost change to people in Sewer District #3 – Mr. Stone had received this information from Ron LaBerge while he was on vacation but he did have a quick look at it but he hadn't gotten into the meat of it and in one of Ron's calculations indicated that his opinion was that folks in proposed Sewer District #4 would pay about \$7,000.00 more under the new rates than under the current system. Mr. Stone thinks that one of the things he (Mr. LaBerge) didn't take into account is that as the denominator gets bigger, everyone's rate is going to go down. So there is a feedback loop that's there hard to predict on that rate schedule that we recommended was on the current users because we can't be sure that Sewer District #4 will ever come to pass and yet if it does come to pass, then that projected rate will come down making that delta smaller. He thinks there will still be an increase in a one on one comparison, but the Pawling Joint Sewer Commission needs more money to operate, it's just that simple. This current system has been in place for a long time and it's just not generating enough money to do all fixes that we need to do. Chairperson Taylor added that the list today – Mr. Stone interjected that the list just adds to it. Mr. Stone added things break, things get old. Chairperson Taylor said one of the other expenses we have been having to deal with, is the fact that all the grease in that trunk line continues to clog up, and then we have to jet the pipes and vac the pipes out so that has hit us hard. The Village Building Department has been out there doing all the grease trap checks and is now going back to them and doing surprise inspections, checking logs, so we are going to keep on that. We have also found some educational brochures, so they are being handed out, they are in English & Spanish so we are just going to have to keep on top of this and hopefully we can get to a point – the Building Department has noticed that some of these grease traps are not sized right, so we are going to have to look at enforcing the increased size in grease traps and that is something that will have to be discussed, but for now, we are getting out there and doing the inspections and letting everyone know that we are here and that we are going to be inspecting them. It

seems to be going well, but the first round out there did show that there are a few bad ones, so we are just going to really stay on top of it and hope that we don't keep having to jet the line.

Chairperson Taylor asked the Commission if anyone had anything they wanted to add, there was no further discussion.

Chairperson Taylor asked for a motion to close the meeting. **MOTIONED** by Commissioner Schmitt to close the regular business meeting. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. There was no further discussion; all were in favor, motion carried. Time 7:26 PM.

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Jerry Locascio, Secretary