

DATE OF MEETING: September 14, 2023

PLACE OF MEETING: Village Hall

KIND OF MEETING: Business

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Lauri Taylor
Commissioner James Schmitt
Commissioner Jerry Locascio
Commissioner Stephen Pezzella
Commissioner Arthur Guzzo
Commissioner Phil DeRosa

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner John Burweger

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Justin Kadish, Waste Water Treatment Plant

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 Schmitt to approve the August 10, 2023 Business Meeting Minutes as presented, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Locascio. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

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

MOTION by Commissioner Schmitt to approve the August 2023 Voucher's Report as presented. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Locascio. Commissioner DeRosa recused himself because he was not present at the previous meeting. All other members of the Commission were in favor and motion carried.

MOTION by Chairperson Taylor to transfer \$76,119.51 from O&M Acct. ending in 0030 to Checking Acct. ending in 0190 to pay the August 2023 Vouchers. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schmitt. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

MOTIONED by Chairperson Taylor to approve the transfer of \$925.00 from Capital Acct. ending in 0000 to Checking Acct. ending in 0190 to pay NY Electrical Inspections for the West Main Street Pump Station & NY Rural Water for camera work. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schmitt. There was no discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

MOTION by Commissioner Schmitt to adjust Customer # 10618 (Ref. # 60.23) sewer bill in the amount of \$1,958.54 due to an elbow that ruptured while the tenant was away on vacation. The water didn't enter the sewer system and was pumped out of the basement. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Locascio.

MOTION by Commissioner Schmitt to adjust Customer # 10512 (Ref. # 61.23) sewer bill in the amount of \$435.08 due to a tear in the outdoor hose which resulted in a reading of 41,859 gallons above Customers normal use. The water didn't enter the sewer system.

Commissioner Schmitt spoke about another water leak that happened a few years ago and the how quickly it adds up. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Locascio. There was no further discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

MOTION by Commissioner Locascio to waive the \$1,112.42 additional sewer charges for Ref. # 62.23 for Customer # 10073 due to the expansion tank bursting in the basement and the water not entering the sewer system. **SECONDED** by Commissioner DeRosa. There was no further discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

Chairperson Taylor called upon Justin Kadish of the Waste Water Treatment Plant regarding Ref. # 63.23 – Aaron Associates Report. Justin explained that they were testing the gas system because it kept giving off alarms quite often. It turned out that two of the gas sensors were incorrect. Aarons came to get the correct information for the sensors so they can get a credit back from the manufacturer, MSA as the sensors were defective. While Aarons was there, they did all of the annual calibrations and for the most part everything was good. We do need to replace the majority of the backup batteries for all of the computer systems and Aarons is going to give us a quote for that so we can then look & see if we can just purchase the batteries ourselves and install them on our own.

Ref. # 64.23 – Revised quote from Fred Cook for jetting & camera service for the sewer line on Memorial Ave. Chairperson Taylor asked Justin to speak about this. Justin explained that when NY Rural Water was here back in August they couldn't get the camera down that line because of the excessive buildup of grease in the line. It was decided that we have Cook come in and knock down all of the grease and extract it from the line. Cook will then put their camera in so we can determine if we have any I&I issues in this line. The quote was revised after we asked if they could reduce the cost of their services which they did by \$200. Doing this work should keep this line from backing up constantly and in turn save us money. Commissioner Guzzo asked if this had ever been done before – Chairperson Taylor said things were not maintained very well before. Commissioner DeRosa asked if we were doing the grease trap inspections on a regular basis, Chairperson Taylor said the Building Inspector was doing them and going back unannounced to check them every so often. Chairperson Taylor mentioned that some of the grease traps are actually undersized and we will be addressing that as well. Justin added that NY Rural gave us a bunch of literature about the proper sizing of the grease traps. Chairperson Taylor said we need to put a plan together because once the pipes are cleaned which they haven't been in a very long time, we will need to stay on top of it.

MOTIONED by Commissioner Schmitt to approve Ref. # 64.23. **SECONDED** by Chairperson Taylor. There was no further discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

Ref. # 65.23 – A quote from Foremost Electric for testing two motors, installing, programming & startup of VFD at the WWTP in the amount of \$6,708.06. Chairperson Taylor asked Justin if he wanted to add anything – Justin explained to the Commission this was for one of the four SBR systems. Of the four SBR's we know blew up because when the whole plant tripped out a while ago, when we brought the system back online the breaker never tripped so when we turned it back on we wound up frying it. So we know one VFD is down but we are unsure if it was a motor problem or if it was the VFD that had the issue so what Foremost is going to do is replace the VFD and then test the other to see if we need a new VFD or a motor. Justin advised that this was critical to get this done. Commissioner Pezzella asked if this quote was just for the one VFD – Justin confirmed it was.

MOTIONED by Commissioner Locascio to approve Ref. # 65.23 for quote in the amount of \$6,708.06. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Schmitt. There was no further discussion; all were in favor and motion carried.

Chairperson Taylor asked if Commissioner Schmitt and Mr. Stone if there were any updates on the Castagna project – Commissioner Schmitt said he had stopped by there last week and they were still moving along. Mr. Stone said he had not been out there since his last visit, but he would stop by the following week when he is here in Pawling. Mr. Stone added that he had not received any calls about inspecting the last two septic tanks, but when he was last there he did inspect the other three and things were moving along nicely.

Chairperson Taylor moved on to the West Main Street Pump Station Electrical Upgrade. Jeff Liebowitz of LaBella was not in attendance & Christine explained that we are waiting for the closeout documents from Foremost Electric.

Chairperson Taylor asked Commissioner Schmitt for an update on the ASPCA project. Commissioner Schmitt said they had come in last week, they have their GC in order, they have hired an excavation Company either out of Putnam County or Westchester County and they were scheduling their pre-construction meeting with JoAnne Daley & the Building Inspector sometime in the next two weeks, so they're expecting to break ground sometime next month. Commissioner Schmitt told Mr. Stone he would let him know when that meeting takes place.

Mr. Daniels was not present at the meeting so there was no attorney report.

Chairperson Taylor asked Mr. Stone if he had an Engineer's Report – Mr. Stone said he had nothing critical to discuss with the Commission.

Chairperson Taylor asked Justin if there was anything else – he told the Commission that they were at the Elementary School on Haight Street Pump Station and pulled both of the pumps because they were both clogged so we had to call Savarese – Chairperson Taylor interjected and said you cleaned out that pump station not too long ago. Justin said not too long ago, about three weeks ago they had this pump station and others cleaned out, fully vacuumed out, nothing on the bottom of the tanks, so this past Tuesday (Sept. 12th) they saw that this pump station was starting to fill up, just before it hit the alarm flow so the alarm didn't call out. They tried resetting the pumps, but they wouldn't reset so they had to call Savarese vacuum Company to come pump down the tanks so they could at least see where the pumps were and hook onto them and pull them up and inspect them, they took two photos. In one photo you can see it has a full size microfiber towel and you can see that it's still blue and in the other, there is an actual metal chain and hair ties and other things. They have had past history where they should have taken photos, but they didn't where there was other microfiber towels and a **lot** of feminine hygiene products. As far as the chain is concerned, Justin said it was in there for quite a while because there was so much buildup on it and it could have been sitting in the line forever and it just now came through. Chairperson Taylor said this was something that she had asked Justin to talk about it because she thinks it's something that the Commission should discuss, because as Justin stated, they had just pumped this station out three weeks prior and we (the Commission) are just paying the bill for that and now the Commission is going to be looking at a sizable bill from Savarese to clean all of this out. Chairperson Taylor asked the

Commission if we just continue to absorb these bills or should some of this cost go back to – Commission Schmitt interjected and asked if this comes directly from the school – Chairperson Taylor said yes, it comes directly from the elementary school. Commissioner Schmitt asked if we could send these photos to the school and ask where these towels are coming from – Chairperson Taylor said we are finding feminine products as well in very large quantities. Commissioner DeRosa asked if they have any signage up in the school – Chairperson Taylor said she didn't know. After much discussion it was agreed that we should prepare and send a letter to the school letting them know that this is a problem and what the financial ramifications are. It was decided that the Commission would discuss the situation again in the near future. Justin mentioned that there is a really bad grease problem at the Greenlawn Pump Station. Commissioner Locascio asked if the Golf Course line comes through that pump station, Justin said it did, but the Commission didn't think the Golf Course could be causing the problem since they don't serve food. Justin said when Rural Water comes back in October this might be a good area to camera, all agreed.

Chairperson Taylor asked for a motion to close the meeting and go into Public Comment. **MOTIONED** by Commissioner Schmitt to close the regular business meeting. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Locascio. There was no further discussion; all were in favor, motion carried. Time 7:43 PM.

Jerry Locascio, Secretary