

DATE OF MEETING: May 12, 2022

PLACE OF MEETING: Village Hall

KIND OF MEETING: Business

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Daniel Peters
Lauri Taylor
James Schmitt
Jerry Locascio
John Burweger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Meyer

CONSULTANTS PRESENT:

At 7:00 p.m. the Business Meeting of the Pawling Joint Sewer Commission was called to order by Chairman Dan Peters with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTIONED by Chairman Peters to:

- Approve the April 21, 2022 Business Meeting Minutes as presented.
- Approve the April 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented.
- Approve payment of the April, 2022 Vouchers/Bills as presented and prepaid vouchers.

SECONDED by Commissioner Burweger. All were in favor and **Motion** carried.

MOTIONED by Chairman Peters to Approve transfer of \$237,813.07 from O&M Acct. ending in 0030 to Checking Acct. ending in 0190 to pay April 2022 Vouchers & Pre-Paid Vouchers. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Taylor. All were in favor and **Motion** carried.

MOTIONED by Chairman Peters to approve transfer of \$1,772.50 from Capital Acct. ending in 0000 to Checking Acct. ending in 0190 to pay LaBella Vouchers for West Main Street Pump Station Upgrade Project. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burweger. All were in favor, **Motion** carried.

Chairman Peters asked that the Commission look at Ref. # 37.22 attached to their package, the drafted Resolution that was prepared regarding the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the PJSC for new sewer connections. Chairman Peters explained that the Resolution is basically the same as the Local Law that was adopted by the Village Board of Trustees & the Town of Pawling Board regarding new water hook-ups. Prior to hooking up to the sewer system, an application would need to be filled out by the customer and a fee of \$500 paid. Once the PJSC approves the connection, the customer would need to open an escrow account with the PJSC in the amount of \$4,000. Once all of the work is completed, an itemized accounting of all expenses would be prepared by the PJSC. Any monies not used would then be refunded to the customer, however if the cost exceeds the \$4,000 the customer would need to pay the difference to PJSC. Christine told Commissioner Schmitt that she would email him a copy of the Resolution so the Town could approve it at their next meeting in June. Commissioner Taylor asked Commissioner Schmitt if the Town had

approved the Local Law for the new Water hook-up. Commission Schmitt wasn't sure, but said he would look into it and confirm.

MOTIONED by Chairman Peters that the Sewer Commission approve the Resolution and forward a copy to the Village Board and the Town Board for approval.

SECONDED by Commissioner Schmitt. All were in favor, **Motion** carried.

Chairman Peters asked that the Commission review Ref. # 38.22 in their package, regarding Dave Norton's proposal to service 10 generators twice per year @ a cost of \$5,100.00 per year as opposed to the current agreement with Peak Power that covers only 6 generators @ \$2,983.65 once per year. Commissioner Burwerger pointed out that the other proposal he received from Kinsley was considerable higher, coming in at \$9,000. It was also noted by Commissioner Burwerger that Peak Power also charged additional fees for diagnostic services. The only additional charges in the Dave Norton Proposal would be for filters, oil etc. Chairman Peters **MOTIONED** to accept the proposal from Dave Norton. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Burwerger. All were in favor, **Motion** carried.

Chairman Peters called on Dan Stone and asked if he had any updates regarding the construction of Receiving Station @ the WWTP. Dan replied they are working on getting a schedule together and would forward it to the Commission with how they think that will play out and schedule a pre-application meeting with DEC. He also commented that Castagna is moving along and he will have more for the Commission at the next meeting. West Main Street Pump Station Electric Upgrade is also moving, but we are still waiting for equipment. ASPCA has submitted their plan to Dutchess County, and Dan is supporting that plan in a sense with his hydraulic analysis he did of the gravity used in one of the two force mains and will supply that to Dutchess County. Regarding Hannaford, Dan Stone & Dan Peters had talked with them about a month ago, they have not gotten back to either of them, however they said they would be reaching out to the Real Estate people to find out if they would be interested in speaking with the Commission. Finally, Ron of LaBerge reached out to Christine and asked what the sewer rates would be for those on the Route 22 Corridor so they could incorporate that information into the Map Plan they are putting together for the Town. Dan Stone will respond to LaBerge about this, but he and Jeff Smith are still in the process of finding a consultant to work with both the Village & the Sewer Commission to simplify the billing program, so at this point there is a little bit of uncertainty as to what the rate will look like for that area of the sewer district. Dan said he feels confident that he can give Ron of LaBerge enough detail to work through what he needs.

Chairman Peters asked Dan Stone where we stood in finding a consultant for the billing program, Dan responded he and Jeff Smith were going to be speaking with Williamson Law the following Monday and hopefully they will have a proposal together as to what it would cost to convert the billing software as a fixed fee. They have also asked Williamson to have this up and tested by mid-August so we can utilize the program for the September billing and Williamson has already verbally confirmed that there is no issue in them being able to do that. Right now, Jeff, Dan & Christine need to work through the benefit structure and Dan & Christine have committed time next week to get that information together. Dan's hope is to have a benefit structure put together to present to both the Village and the Sewer Commission within about three weeks and will walk everyone through it at the next meeting. At that time, suggestions for modification (if needed) can be heard. This will be the core structure for recovering Capital on both the water & sewer. Chairman

Peters added that the goal is that the billing ends up right about where it is now, just in a more simplified method. Dan Stone added, the goal is to make sure we get it right. Single Family homes are simple in figuring out, where it becomes challenging is there are roughly 200 customers that are not single family homes and we need to go carefully through those customers to make sure we get it right. Dan added that he wouldn't promise that all users would continue to see the same bill, because the current billing system was based on assessment and since the assessed values have not been updated in the Village for many years, it makes more sense to base the billing on a benefit unit's basis. Chairman Peters asked if anyone had any questions. No questions were asked. Dan Peters asked Commissioner Schmitt if he had anything to add regarding the ASPCA Project or Hannaford. Commissioner Schmitt had nothing to add at this time.

Chairman Peters asked the public if they had any questions, Phil DeRosa added that the Town had requested LaBerge to add the sewer information into the Map Plan they are working on, and then asked the Commission what they thought about the meeting the Town had had a few weeks ago when LaBerge spoke about the Route 22 corridor. Mr. DeRosa said he was a bit disappointed that there was only about 5 property owners in attendance at that meeting after all the letters the Town had sent out to the property owners. Chairman Peters responded that he thought it was a good meeting. Commissioner Schmitt said most of the people the Town spoke with previously were in favor of hooking up to the sewer. Mr. DeRosa said that wasn't necessarily true, Chairman Peters, responded that some of the dissenters were in attendance and they were there because they feel that they would be paying for something that they can't use, but the upside for those residents is it will increase their property value immensely. Mr. DeRosa said the concern for some of the property owners is they are set back off Route 22 in some cases 300 to 400 feet and it would be very expensive for them to connect. Commissioner Schmitt said they would be looking into the legality of what the Town could require from those property owners regarding hooking up to the sewer system. Chairman Peters said the way the Village handles the situation of vacant lots that are in the sewer district is by charging those owners the basic debt charge through special fees billing. Mr. DeRosa then asked what happens if a property owner doesn't hook-up and then 5 – 10 years later decides to hook-up. Chairman Peters said back when the old sewer plant was at the end of its life cycle, if someone who had not connected to the system when it was offered decided to connect later on, they were charged for the years of back debt charges. Chairman Peters asked if anyone else had any questions, there was nothing further.

Chairman Peters made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Taylor. All were in favor, motion carried. Time 7:40PM.

Jerry Locascio, Secretary