

**Meeting of the Village Water/Sewer Commissioners**

Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

43 S Main Street, Main Street Fire Station

Present: P.H. Flanders, C. Parks, R. Finucane, Commissioners; B. Shepeluk, Manager; and C. Nelson, Staff

Public: Lefty Sayah, Barb Farr

Flanders called the special meeting of the Water and Sewer Commissioners to order at 4:33pm.

The board reviewed the agenda and no changes were made.

**Possible Grant Applications for the Village:** Barb Farr provided information to the board about two possible grants that the Village may be interested in applying for. The first would be a grant to help fund a feasibility study on the potential for extending the sewer line along Rte. 100 towards the cider mill. The second grant would provide funding to reinforce the Main Pump Station to 500-year floodplain requirements (it currently meets 100-year floodplain needs). Flanders did not think that it would be possible for the Village to extend its sewer services into the Town until other political needs were met (the Village ordinance would need to be changed to do so) but that the upgrades to the MPS were conceivable. The second grant would require a 10% local match of approximately \$12,000. **Finucane moved to authorize the staff to submit the grant application to study the cost of upgrading the MPS to meet 500-year floodplain needs at a 10% local share cost. Parks seconded, a vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Health Insurance for 2015:** Shepeluk provided a memo to the board that had previously been discussed by the Village Trustees and Town Select Board that proposed new health insurance contribution amounts for 2015. Major changes included a 2% increase in monthly contributions by the Town and Village plus a \$30/month increase that would replace the current \$350 annual flex spending contribution. Though Shepeluk had proposed providing a pre-determined amount to employees who choose not to take the insurance, the two previous boards discussed but ultimately rejected that proposal. Instead, employees who do not take the health insurance would be given a taxable lump sum of \$350 at the first of the year in lieu of the previous FSA amount. Finucane stated that a stipend should be considered for those who do not take insurance in 2016. **Finucane moved to concur with the Select Board and Trustee's previous decision to increase monthly contributions to health insurance for full-time employees as noted in the memo, including the denial of a stipend and the issuance of the previous \$350 FSA contribution to be included in the monthly amounts. Parks seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Contract with VT BGS:** The existing contract proposal with the State of VT BGS needs to be updated with current rates. Flanders requested that this be addressed before the end of the year so it can be included in 2015 budget considerations. Shepeluk will complete the initial draft of the contract and coordinate with the State of VT to move forward.

**Work Completed by Village and Town Employees:** As a follow up from a previous meeting, the board was provided with data estimating 330 hours per year contributed to town tasks by village water department employees. Estimates from the sewer department have not yet been provided. Staff will continue to analyze cross-municipal tasks with the intent of including them in the budgets for upcoming years.

**Discussion of Electricity Usage at WWTP:** Changes have occurred with the WWTP upgrade that have resulted in monthly power usages that are lower than initially expected, thus changing the outcome of what was predicted with the Green Lantern Contract and how the excess power would be allocated. No action was taken, but staff will continue to monitor the monthly bills and will revisit.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Report:** Shepeluk provided budget reports for the water and wastewater departments. No significant items were addressed. Full report is attached.

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**Monthly Reports:** Shepeluk provided written reports for the public works director, water, and wastewater departments. Reports were discussed and copies are attached. Flanders asked that the wastewater reports contain average daily flows in future reports.

**Minutes:** Finucane moved to approve the minutes of the September 29 meeting with no corrections. Parks seconded the motion, a vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting of the Water and Sewer Commissioners was adjourned at 6:06pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 24 at 43 South Main Street (Fire Station/ Municipal Office).

Respectfully submitted,  
Courtney Nelson, Utilities Billing Clerk

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_