

MINUTES OF THE WALDO WATER & SEWER UTILITY BOARD MARCH 15, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and was in compliance with the Open Meetings Law. Trustees Mike Hintz, Dennis Reinemann, Scott Wolfert, Galan Gatzke and President Dan Schneider were all present. Also present were Operator in Charge Bruce Neerhof, John Port and clerk Michelle Brecht.

The Operator in Charge contract (OMS) was reviewed for renewal on April 1st, 2016. Bruce was asked if he had any concerns with proceeding with the contract as set up last year. He is happy with the contract as it stands. The contract allows for a \$25.00 increase per month for 2016. A motion to renew the OMS contract for \$1025.00 per month was made by Mike Hintz. Seconded by Dennis Reinemann. Approved.

The Minutes of February 8, 2016 were reviewed and approved after a motion by Galan Gatzke and a second by Mike Hintz.

The Treasurer's Report was approved after a motion by Dennis Reinemann and a second by Mike Hintz. (Copies of these reports are available in the Clerk's office.)

The monthly vouchers were reviewed. Mike Hintz made a motion to approve vouchers # 8198-#8203 for a total of \$7915.49. Seconded by Scott Wolfert. Approved.

Bruce Neerhof gave a report on utility operations. There's nothing out of the ordinary for this time of year. The flows are only a bit higher from the snow melt. Both vacant beds were brought back into play on March 1st. As expected the BOD rates are a higher while they get their bacterial growth back. The two beds used in the winter will be rested when the "new" ones are handling the full load again. This process of resting beds is a bit of a trial and error as they find what's best for Waldo. They may find that they can only rest one bed at a time. Two beds handled the higher fall flows so that is a good sign. Our Ammonia levels are way below our limits. Phosphorus is 1.5-3.9 depending on the month. Those limits vary according to month. Our plant removes about 50% of the phosphorus.

The issue of FOG (fats, oils, grease) in the influent sewer system was then discussed. The manhole near Chissy's was tested last month. It will need to continue to be monitored. Albert's Hydrovac jetted the line and then vacuumed the grease at the influent pumping station. This kept the large accumulation of FOG from having to go through our treatment plant. The FOG was then hauled to the Kiel Treatment plant to be treated. (Their plant can handle it.) We should plan on about \$1000.00 worth of vac and hauling bills from the project. A positive discovery was made during this project. Last fall there was about 18" of greasy sludge. A few weeks ago Dale and Bruce had hit the area hard with a bacterial/enzyme product. They thought it really wasn't working on the FOG, but the sludge level has gone down to 2" and is thinner. It is working even after no new applications. They will keep monitoring and see when it starts getting thicker again. At that point they can give the area another dose. It works

best between 65-75 degrees, so they will be more aggressive with it during the summer. Waldo will still have to haul the FOG sludge but it will be less often.

Bruce then shared an encouraging possibility with the problem of phosphorus removal. The DNR has given Bruce the “go ahead” to experiment with a mineral-metal based product that is added to the wet well and mixed. It binds with the phosphorus and makes it sink to the bottom. They are going to try it for two months starting in May or June. He has received proposals for the product needed. The costs will have a 3 year pay back. The companies we will buy the products from are going to supply the chemical feed pump and testing equipment at no charge for the experimental trial. If this is successful, it will save the Village \$500,000.00 in capital outlay. Our plant isn’t designed to take care of the phosphorus. In order to comply with DNR regulations a future treatment plant addition or alteration could be needed.

There was no correspondence nor updates from Board members.

Mike Hintz then made a motion “to enter into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats 19.85(1),(a),(c)&(f) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of a public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, and to preliminarily consider specific personnel problems that, if discussed in public, would likely have a substantial adverse affect on the reputation of those involved.” A roll call vote was taken to second the motion.

Galan Gatzke: yes
Scott Wolfert: yes
Dan Schneider: yes
Dennis Reinemann: yes

No other business was to be transacted this night. No motions were going to be brought to the public as a result of this closed session. It was for employee evaluation/compensation. The Trustees finished their session and adjourned from that point.