

Plainfield Water/WasteWater Commission

Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2019

Present: Tim Phillips, Carol Smith, Greg Chamberlin, Josh Pitts, Mary Lane, Baylen Slote (Health Officer For Plainfield), Betsy Blackshaw, Tristan Macgregor-Stewart

5:17 PM - Meeting called to order.

Review/Adopt Agenda

The approval of minutes was moved later in the agenda.

Review/Adopt Minutes

Minutes for 2019-06-19 were approved as written

Minutes for 2018-06-10 were approved as written

Private residence sewage leak discussed

There is a sewage leak at the Gray residence on School Street that has been getting worse for about a year. It is surfacing in the neighbor's yard as a puddle. Baylen says this is a health issue. He will contact the homeowner and request voluntary compliance with containing the puddle and correcting the leak. The Commission will send a letter outlining the Grays' responsibility to correct the problem as outlined by our ordinances. We will ask that the Grays' reply by August 19th.

Ordinance/Policy approval

The documents were reviewed. Mary pointed out inconsistencies with what things are called and some missing definitions. Tristan will correct things and resend the ordinances and policies to the Commission.

Clerk's Financial Report

Things are very tight in the waste water budget at this time.

Chief Operator's Report

Greg had talked with the Commission at the previous meeting about adding a trash-rack to the plant's infrastructure to capture more debris. This would replace running the current grinder and catch objects down to ¼ inch.. The previous conversation was about budgeting this for next year. Greg would very much like to do this now. Greg estimates \$43,000 to install. If we do it now, Efficiency Vermont will contribute \$12,000. The estimate is that this upgrade will save \$2,375 yearly on power costs. Greg expects there to be a savings in sludge disposal and the eventual chemical treatment for phosphorous we are expecting to have to do in the future. We are also averaging \$1000 a year to clean tanks - mostly of the debris this trash-rack should remove. Greg would like to draw \$32,000 from the capital improvement fund to install this rack now while we can get a \$12,000 offset from Efficiency Vermont. There are currently 364.5 units

on the Waste Water system. A \$30 a year rate increase on a unit would replenish the capital fund in 3 years.

The Commission voted to authorize Greg to go forward with this project now.

As part of the discussion about the trash-rack, Josh suggested that Greg look into shifting the plant from 240V motors to 480V as they are more efficient.

Sign And Approve Warrants

Approved Payroll and Payable Warrants from the following dates: 6/14, 6/21, 6/26, 6/28, 7/5, 7/9, 7/12, 7/16, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/7, 8/9 2019.

Other Business

None

The date of the next monthly meeting is September 16, 2019 at 5:15PM.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM

Submitted by Tim Phillips