

Sewer and Water Minutes

October 6, 2020

Present: Don Schneyer, John Loiodice, Tony Campetti, Mike Buffoni, and Jennifer Carmichael; Absent: Peter Socha

Don asked for a motioned to accept the minutes from September 8th, John motioned to accept the minutes and all were in favor.

Echo Lake reservoir was down 18 ½ inches before the rain fall the other day and now is down 12 ½ before overflow, at this time there are no water restrictions.

The odor at the Glendale Pump Station has subsided it is being treated 7 days a week. The drum scrubber runs 24 hours a day.

John reported on the Stockbridge Bowl Stewardship meeting last Friday. Conditions that can help the out flow of the lake were discussed; dredging on the SBA side but there was no consensus when dredging would start. Harvesting is on hold and will not happen this year. The Lake Management Plan is being devised and will have to be approved by DEP.

Mike and Mark will do the next round of samples and data collection at the Bowl next week. With the rain some of the tributaries will be running into the lake. Chris Mayne from GZA has explained water chemistry on what the water samples are tested for.

Water and Sewer rates were discussed: in the last 2 years there has been no rate increase. A spread sheet record is kept to give an idea of income verses expenses and the 2 departments are making money. \$140,000 each were taken out of surplus funds to move the lines for sewer and water off the Curtisville Bridge which is starting to break down faster than first thought. After the budget, articles, and the \$140,000 each the available surplus is \$325,000 for sewer and \$519,000 for water; In the utility world this is not much. There was a rate study done, Mike and Tony do not want to be as aggressive as the study shows but feel a 10% increase in rates for both sewer and water. Both departments try to net \$100,000/year. The Sewer bond debt is approximately \$100,000 per year there are 4 more years left paying this debt. Don asked for a motion and John motioned to raise the sewer and the water rates by 10% each and all were in favor. The Town's rates are below many of the surrounding towns.

Water supply and trespassers: There are signs everywhere, many are torn down again and again. This is the Town's only water supply, there is no backup. Maybe adding cameras would help the police are patrolling more at the reservoir.

Gate for road at temporary sewer and water entrance while the highway garage is being built. Mike got an estimate on paving the driveway and has solicited two other local paving companies for pricing.

Tuckerman's Bridge: Mike got a proposal from Foresight Land Services of \$35,000 to \$36,000 for engineering services to remove the main out of the river and hang the water main on the bridge. A special article will be in for the May 2021 town meeting from water surplus.

The high lift pump #2 was rebuilt last year. Pumps #1 and #3 need to be rebuilt and a package with specifications was given to the Town Administrator who will get a bid package together.

Patrick Sheehan owns the water booster pump station at the end of Tree Farm Rd that feeds the Desisto property. A resident on Tree Farm Rd has asked to hook into his 6" water main to get Town water and Mr. Sheehan had no objections. Mr. Minkler will cover the cost of the meter equipment for the Town, a private contractor will tap into the line.

A letter to let Nick Nadorff (Stockbridge Gas on Depot St.) know there is a Town water main easement on his property will be written and sent by Town Counsel.

A letter was received by John from a resident with questions regarding the Curtisville Bridge water and sewer main relocation project. Don and Peter will read the letter and it will be taken up at our next meeting.

John motioned to adjourn and all were in favor.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 2020

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Carmichael