

SEWER BOARD MINUTES

October 15, 2009

7:03 p.m. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Blair.

Roll Call

Present: Blair, Chappell, Reznick, Stiles

Absent: Slucter

Blair mentioned that Slucter was unavailable for the meeting due to a scheduling conflict.

Also Present: Denise Parisian, Village Manager; Betsy Kelly, Recording Secretary; Mike Spitler, WWTP Operator.

Treasurer's Reports/Bills

Motion by Chappell, second Reznick, to accept the treasurer's report for October 15, 2009 as presented. Motion carried. Motion by Reznick, second Chappell, to approve payment of \$33,817.74 for October 15, 2009 bills. Motion carried.

Minutes

Motion by Stiles, second Chappell, to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2009 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Open to the Public

No comments were received.

Superintendent's Report

Spitler reported on the following items: work on the five-year plan to televise the sewer mains began this week and a few trouble spots were revealed that will require lining; a proposal from Rod Parks for the new alarm system has been received; the application for a two-year license from the FCC will cost of \$600.00; and discussions with a new septic hauler interested in discharging at the WWTP have been initiated.

Old Business

1. Spitler presented final engineering plans for replacing the sewer main in the Grand River. Parisian suggested holding off on the permitting process until the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) has been reviewed to determine the best time frame for completion of the project. Discussion followed regarding the cost of the project; the current condition of the pipe; and the duration of a permit from the State. The Members reviewed the plans from Wolverine Engineers and agreed to delay permitting until the CIP is complete. Blair suggested moving the request from Jackie's Diner for a sewer rate review under, New Business, ahead on the agenda in consideration of the representatives in attendance.

New Business

1. Parisian provided background information on the request from Jackie's Diner for a review of the sewer rate. She noted that Spitler conducted an inspection at the facility which indicated that the only uses remaining are one small office and the 172-seat restaurant which equates to 22.76 REU's (Residential Equivalent Units) for a monthly bill of \$637.28. Parisian explained that absent metering, restaurants are charged at .13 REU per seat which is the rate established in the Table of Equivalent Unit Factors (TEUF). The representative from Jackie's Diner stated that sewer bills for his other restaurants run approximately \$100.00 per month and explained that Mr. Tran is seeking relief from the comparatively high sewer rate at the Dimondale site. Discussion followed regarding adjustments to the TEUF and the age of the rate table. Reznick volunteered to research updates for the TEUF. The representative from Jackie's questioned the number of seats recorded in the audit stating that the actual number is lower. Parisian stated that Spitler can revisit the facility for a seat count next week to confirm the correct rate under the current TEUF and the Board can review research done by Reznick when it's available. The Members agreed with this course of action.

Old Business

2. Blair presented a sample safety policy in use by Stiles at his business. Stiles noted that this document spells out safety expectations and requires employees to sign-off verifying receipt. Parisian suggested that staff review this document along with the current WWTP safety procedures and create a draft for Board's review. Stiles suggested establishing a safety meeting schedule and questioned whether Spittler should wear protective face gear when raking the headworks to prevent accidental contact with raw sewage. Spittler stated that he would look into this.
3. Chappell suggested revisiting attendance expectations at the next meeting.

Motion by Reznick second Chappell, to adjourn. Jim Hein Jr., 530 W. Jefferson St., questioned the process for determining priorities for Capital Improvement Projects. Parisian explained that priorities are suggested by staff and approved by the Sewer Board. Motion carried at 9:10 p.m.