

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 20, 2005 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Authority Meeting

1 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL: Chairman Blanchard called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. Commissioners present were Mike Herzog, Jeff Bither, Richard Barnum and Dean Blanchard. None absent. Others present were Tom Wheat, Rich Pierson and Nancy Smith.

REVIEW AND SET AGENDA: A motion was made by Barnum and seconded by Herzog to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried, all ayes.**

OPEN BIDS ON FORD TRUCK: One bid was received on the truck in the amount of \$7,301.00 from W.J. Stafford. Barnum made a motion to accept the bid as presented. The motion was seconded by Bither. **Motion carried, all ayes.** Mr. Stafford will be notified.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2005 REGULAR BOARD MEETING: Bither made a motion to accept the minutes as mailed. Motion was seconded by Barnum. **Motion carried, all ayes.**

HEAR THOSE PRESENT: There were none present to be heard.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Best Way Disposal – Letter stating reasons and increase in their rates. Board information only.

Myers – Home at 8546 “G” Ave. could possibly be included in the 31st St water project . He is to respond no later than October 14, 2005.

Customer notice (grinder pump) – Letter Barry Bowman sent to all grinder customers with emergency instructions in case of pump malfunction.

Bible Conference – Gull Lake Ministries will be proceeding with road development. Gull Lake Sewer & Water has decided that deep sewer pipe under that road is not in our best interest. When needed we will use same route as Wintergreen Lake pipe into Gull Lake. Wheat suggested we obtain easement now.

31st Street Water: Summary
 GLSWA will be administering project for Richland Township/Pfizer Water on 31st Street. We will be following up on the installation to 23 homes of which the City of Kalamazoo will be hooking up 9 homes. We were able to purchase 5000 ft. of 2" pipe needed at a reasonable price from Etna while it was available.

Hillcrest Water Step 1. Water search update
 Initial Step 1 has been initiated for finding source water in Ross Township on or near the Hillcrest site. Report due in 2 or 3 weeks.

Hillcrest Sewer Proposed contract
 Wheat and Pierson met with Vern Eldridge from the Village of Augusta to review how sewage from Hillcrest Development might best be handled. Pierson to follow up with a meeting.

Y-Camp Sewer Proposal outline
 Pierson reviewed the routing for the sewer that could also provide grinder service to about 80 homes on Sherman Lake. A lengthy discussion followed as to the best system to propose and the best route for the money. Y-Camp has committed to \$400,000 plus indirect connection fees. It may be best to have Y-Camp sign petition to offer gravity sewer petition one last attempt

Cranes Pond Sewer Proposal outline
 Scott is talking about 104 single family houses in this development and desires sewer as soon as available. This development can pump directly to 37th St.

Mountain View No dollars/No contact
 Pierson and Smith did talk with Steve Coleman's attorney and they could not help us in reaching him. They are having that same problem. We may have to write off the debt. Blanchard suggested that we might be able to place a Mechanics' Lien on the property. We will pursue this avenue. Wheat said that Winkie at P & N might be able to help us with that.

Vineyard Academy
 The building of the pump station will go out to bid next week and we will open bids on 11/10/05 with recommendation for award at our next regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit Report Separate Handout and presentation
 Pierson went through the audit and pointed out several items to the Board. The year ended with a shortfall of approximately \$63,000 of revenues for annual operational expenses. Treatment charges and Legal expenses were the two big over runs. Board requested detail on Repairs & Maintenance account in the amount of \$13,968.

Pierson asked if the Board would like to have Mr. Loftus attend next meeting and they indicated they did not feel it was necessary.

Credit Card Payment

We are working with Official Payment Corp. and Pierson talked over the legalities and process with Ken Sparks. Sparks had prepared a draft resolution that would need to be passed by each township prior to us proceeding with the program. Pierson will attempt to attend each Township meeting this next month or in December to recommend adoption. Pierson is to have Sparks prepare a clean copy for each of the four Townships. A motion was made to move ahead with this program by Barnum and seconded by Herzog.

Motion carried, all ayes.

Lawn Care

Pierson had asked Smith to prepare a summary sheet of Vaccaro Lawn Care for the past two years. The cost incurred for 04 & 05 and the stations cared for is in packet for Board review and both years appeared reasonable. We will continue with Vaccaro on into next season.

OLD BUSINESS

Augusta inflow/calculation

Pierson reviewed the calculations he had done regarding the amount of leakage per day times the days per year with estimated cost per year approximately \$1,372.00 +/-.

Following discussion, the Board asked that Pierson ask for additional data. Issue tabled till next meeting when perhaps someone from Augusta can attend our Board Meeting.

Employee salary and review procedure (on going)

Pierson and Turner have met once on this issue and Pierson is updating the personnel policy, which had not been done since 1993. Findings and suggested methods of compensation will be presented in February along with employee reviews.

Direct Connection Fee

Pierson continues to work on this, has met with Ken Sparks and hopes to have a map to present next month with colored blocks of connection fees costs in various districts, which he feels would be an easy way to keep accurate track of costs to be charged, provide equity for neighbors and still capture sufficient revenue for our long-term capital & depreciation risk.

Pfizer invoicing and update

The City of Kalamazoo as of this date has not invoiced us for actual flow – 2005 from Pfizer Farms. If the City invoices us, we will then invoice Pfizer. Pierson has made

Pfizer aware of the possibility that the amount is 3x more then we had assumed during our budget session last February. No action necessary at the present time.

FINANCIAL REVIEW/ PAY BILLS

Financial reports

Upon review of the statements, bills paid & Woolf bill for \$1668.00 (LS-30)

Barnum made a motion to pay them as presented. Motion was seconded by Herzog.

Motion carried, all ayes. A motion was made by Bither and seconded by Herzog to Pay the Prein & Newhof bills as presented in the amount of \$9,158.82. **Motion carried, all ayes.**

CLOSING COMMENTS

Bither commented that those in favor of the Village of Gull Lake are working diligently. This issue has come up 3 or 4 times before. Through this move the “Village” could/would control the dam and be an organized body to fight for the well being of the lake. Bither also told Board that Gull Lake Café’ will be closing for good Nov. 13th, 2005. Property has been bought by Johnson/Elenbass.

A new fire truck should be arriving at Prairieville Township within the next 3 or 4 weeks according to Herzog. Plans are being drawn for a new township hall and fire station to be built in the next few years.

Barnum said that MDOT crew is working on the expansion of M-43 through the Village of Delton. A grant has been obtained and project should be done in 2007.

Wheat is meeting with Mike Malsice on M-43 and will ask about Gull Road.

Blanchard told of sale of southeast corner of 30th & M-89 to Allen Edwin Homes for new development similar to “Applegate” in Portage. Homes will range from \$130,000 to \$450,000.

Pierson explained a bit about Regional Commission meetings and the proposed purchase of the utility systems from the City using “cash flow capacity”. This approach is proposed by the business community (Southwest Michigan 1st) in an apparent effort to avoid an in-city income tax. It is called the “Growth Plan”.

ADJOURN MEETING TO November 17, 2005

Chairman Blanchard adjourned meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted for Approval

Dean Blanchard - Chairman