

January 2009 Regular Meeting

Call to Order: It is established that a quorum is present. Chairman Mackenzie called this regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: MacKenzie, Wallen, Hebert, O'Keefe, Reyher

Facility Staff Present: Lewis is the recording clerk for this meeting.

Audience: Doug Netsch

Acceptance of Minutes: Upon *motion* by Hebert, seconded by Wallen and carried unanimously, the minutes from the November 2008 meeting were accepted as presented.

New Business:

Doug Netsch inquired as to who developed or can adjust the rate structure for multi-unit properties that may or may not be connected to the system. Netsch was informed that in 1987 the Authority voted to use the use a flat rate structure, which is now called the Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) method. MacKenzie told Netsch the Authority would discuss the matter later in the meeting if time permitted. Lewis explained to Netsch that sufficient revenue to operate and maintain the facility and appurtenances is critical to protecting the investment already made by the Town and will extend the useful life of the treatment system. Lewis stressed that it is in everyone's best interest to ensure the facility is funded sufficiently to allow it to operate without problems.

Lewis presented the monthly operations report. Mackenzie queried Lewis in regards to line # 600-60092, the Operation & Maintenance line that is significantly over expended. Lewis stated that one expenditure (8K) needs to be charged back to the Capital Improvement line. This invoice was for the rehabilitation of Tank 301. The pavement repair for Winter Avenue was 9K. Lewis stated that he has not received reimbursement of 3K from Tripplite™ Corp. for the damage caused by the faulty UPS device.

Lewis discussed the purchase of a Kubota RTV1100™ ATV utility vehicle (18k state bid) for the facility. The vehicle would be equipped with a plow to facilitate snow removal on Main Street and on sidewalks and right of ways at the facility. The vehicle would be used year round at the facility on the right of ways and around the facility. MacKenzie stated he felt the Town should contribute 50% of the cost of the vehicle, as it will be used to maintain town (sidewalks) property. Upon *motion* by Rehyer, seconded by Wallen and moved unanimously the Authority voted to equally divide the cost of the utility vehicle with the town.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the resident's inquiry on the structure of the rate system. The current flat rate system according to Lewis is the most popular in the State. The actual volume method has several shortfalls that are noted below:

1. Greater level of effort to convert Connecticut Water Company billing records to sewer use charge.
2. Increased chance of billing errors.
3. A calculation would be required to make up for the distinctive portion of billable versus actual flow to the facility. This calculation would make up for inflow/infiltration entering the facility. This calculation would need to be adjusted on a regular basis.
4. Complaints from ratepayers of what percentage of water that is actually making its way into system i.e. watering lawns/gardens, car washing etc.
5. The equation of each properties billing versus the ratio of total flow to the plant would have a significantly negative impact on each properties billing during periods where extraneous amounts of water enter the system caused by heavy rain/snow.

The consensus of the Authority is to remain with the current EDU method of billing.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Wallen, seconded by Hebert and carried unanimously, the Authority voted to adjourn this regular meeting at 9:10 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is set to be held on Monday February 2nd.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter Lewis,
Recording clerk

010709/1/min/doc