

BOARD MEETING

September 14, 2023

*AUG 10, 2023*



THE MEETING BEGAN AT 5:30 P.M.

MEETING OPENED WITH PRAYER BY MR. CROSBY

BOARD MEMBERS WERE INTRODUCED AS FOLLOWS:

MR. EDDIE CROSBY, BOARD MEMBER

JERRY HAYES, BOARD PRESIDENT

DAN BARNETT, BOARD MEMBER

JOHN OWINGS, ESCUD LAWYER

BEN HARRIS, WITT UTILITY DISTRICT

SIGN IN SHEET AVAILABLE

THE MEETING WAS THEN CALLED TO ORDER BY JERRY HAYES

**OLD BUSINESS**

DISCUSSION AND CHANGES WERE TO CORRECT AMOUNTS ALLOTTED FOR NEW TRUCK AND 2 MEN.

DATE OF AUDIT WAS DISCUSSED TO EXTEND DEADLINE

DAN SPOKE TO STRIKE "900" SEWER CUSTOMERS. WRITTEN INCORRECTLY

MR. CROSBY MADE MOTION TO APPROVE LAST MONTHS MINUTES

MR. BARNETT SECOND THE MOTION.

MOTION WAS CARRIED TO PASS MINUTES FOR LAST MONTH WITH APPROVED CHANGES BY MR. HAYES.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

MR. HARRIS DISCUSSES BACK BILLING AND HOW HARD IT WOULD BE TO BILL AT THIS POINT DUE TO GAP BETWEEN MUNI-LINK AND UMS. CANNOT TURN ON ACH DUE TO LACK OF INFORMATION ON CUSTOMERS. AFRAID IF ACH IS TURNED ON IT WILL PULL FROM CUSTOMERS NO LONGER IN SYSTEM OR PEOPLE WHO ARE CONTINUING TO PAY, WILL BE CHARGED. EXPLAINED A LETTER HAS BEEN DRAFTED TO SEND TO CUSTOMERS TO UPDATE ALL INFO ON ALL CUSTOMERS. LETTER NEEDED ADDITIONAL WORDING ADDED TO IT. IN ORDER TO GET ACCURATE DATA IT WOULD REQUIRE GOING THROUGH BOXES OF PAPERWORK TO SEE IF EVERYONE HAS PAID DEPOSITS. MR. HARRIS STATES THAT CLOSE TO 200 METERS HAVE BEEN REPLACED BUT BOOKS SHOW 248? MR. HARRIS THEN STATES THAT WHEN ROUTE WAS DONE IT WAS BETWEEN 350-360? MR. HARRIS THEN STATES WE ARE RECEIVING CHECKS ON GOOD FAITH OF PEOPLE WHO ARE CONTINUING TO PAY EVEN THOUGH BILLS HAVE NOT BEEN SENT OFF. ALSO MR. HARRIS STATES THAT SOME PEOPLE ARE SAYING SINCE THEY HAVE NOT RECEIVED A BILL THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE TO PAY. ASKS ABOUT SENDING BILLS OUT FOR 3 MONTHS OF MINIMUM BILL?

MR. CROSBY ASKS HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO SEND OUT THE LETTER? MR. HARRIS STATES WE CAN SEND IT OUT TOMORROW IF EVERYTHING IS CORRECTED AND THE LETTER IS WORDED CORRECTLY.

MR. CROSBY ASKED TO READ LETTER. MR. BARNETT ASKED ABOUT ADDRESSES AND MR. HARRIS CONTINUES TO EXPLAIN HOW HARD IT IS TO GO THROUGH BOOKS, BOXES, TO GET ALL ACCURATE INFO.

MR. HARRIS ASKS TO SEND LETTER TO MUNI-LINK TO PROVIDE ALL DOCUMENTS THEY HAVE.

MR. HAYES ASKS TO TAKE ONE STEP AT A TIME. SUGGEST WE BILL MINIMUM WATER AND SEWER FOR 3 MONTHS. MR. HARRIS THEN STATES HOW DO WE HANDLE SITUATIONS FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN'T PAY FOR ALL 3 MONTHS? MR. BARNETT STATES THAT IF THEY DON'T PAY TO TURN WATER OFF IF THEY CAN'T PROVE PAYMENT AND DEPOSIT. MR. BARNETT THEN ASKS JOHN OWINGS, LAWYER IF THAT IS LEGAL. MR. OWINGS THEN ASKS ABOUT POLICY BOOK? MR. BARNETT EXPLAINS THAT POLICY BOOK COVERED METERED WATER AND WE DON'T HAVE THAT. AGREED WE NEED A POLICY BOOK.

MR. HAYES ASKS IF A MOTION WANTS TO BE MADE ABOUT BILLING? 1<sup>ST</sup> MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HAYES AND 2<sup>ND</sup> BY MR. BARNETT. MOTION WAS THEN VOTED ON. EVERYONE AGREED. BILLS WERE TO BE SENT OUT FOR 3 MONTHS JUNE, JULY, AUGUST WITH STIPULATION IF PEOPLE CAN'T PAY, THEY WORK SOMETHING OUT.

MR. HARRIS THEN ASKS AGAIN ABOUT BILLING FOR 3 MONTHS. IT MIGHT BE PROBLEM WITH PEOPLE ON OFF-SITES WE DON'T HAVE LUXERY OF TURNING OFF ANYTHING? MR. HARRIS STATES HE WILL FIGURE OUT WHO AND IF WE CAN FROM A LEGAL STANDPOINT TERMINATE OR NOT.

LETTER (ROUGH DRAFT) WAS PASSED OUT TO BOARD MEMBERS. BOARD DISCUSSES LETTER AND CERTAIN THINGS TO BE CHANGED. MR. HARRIS STATES HE CAN GET IT TYPED AND SENT OUT. MR. HARRIS ASKS WHILE ON SUBJECT OF BILLING AND LETTER...MUNI-LINK NEEDS TO SEND SOMETHING AND ALLIANCE IS SAYING THEY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING. GETTING 2 STORIES. NEED DIRRECT CONTACT WITH MUNI-LINK. CAN'T CLOSE BOOKS DUE TO LACK OF INFORMATION.

MR. HARRIS ASKS WHILE ON SUBJECT OF BILLING AND LETTER...MUNI-LINK NEEDS TO SEND SOMETHING AND ALLIANCE IS SAYING THEY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING. GETTING 2 STORIES. NEED DIRRECT CONTACT WITH MUNI-LINK. CAN'T CLOSE BOOKS DUE TO LACK OF INFORMATION.

MOTION TO SEND APPROVED LETTER SUBJECT TO JOHN OWINGS APPROVAL. MR. BARNETT 1<sup>ST</sup> MOTION AND MR. CROSBY 2<sup>ND</sup> MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

MR. HARRIS MENTIONS GRANT. MR. BARNETT STATES HE FOLLOWS THAT CLOSELY. MR. HARRIS STATES HE MET AND RECEIVED MAP BUT DIDN'T HAVE EVERYTHING DOCUMENTED CORRECTLY. MR. BARNETT STATES WAITING ON APPROVAL FOR \$50,000.00.

MR. HARRIS STATES HE WANTS TO DISCUSS REBULIDING PUMP D. MR. HARRIS STATES HE'S GOING TO TRY AND GO AROUND NEXT WEEK TO DO ANOTHER BY-PASS. FILTERS ARE DISCUSSED BY MR. HARRIS TO MAKE SURE FILTERS ARE UP TO DATE TO WORK PROPERLY.

MR. HARRIS STATES THAT THE FILTERS AREN'T TAKING CARE OF THE "BROWN" WATER ISSUES OR THE IRON. IRON TESTS ARE COMING BACK HIGHER THAN THEY SHOULD BE. IRON CONTENT SHOULD BE BETWEEN 2.5-2.8 AND THE TESTS ARE COMING BACK 3.3-3.5. SUGGESTS GETTING A MEETING WITH TDEK.

MR. BARNETT ASKS IS IT POSSIBLE TO FIX BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE CALLING IN AFTER A HEAVY RAIN COMPLAINING ABOUT BROWN WATER. MR. BARNETT EXPLAINS PLANT D SHOULD RUN AT 95% MAX CAPACITY SOME OF THE TIME BUT MR. HARRIS STATES ITS RUNNING AT 120-130% ALL THE TIME. MR. CROSBY STATES HE NEVER HEARS IT SHUT OFF. MR. HARRIS STATES THAT A FILTER SHOULD RUN AT 15-20%. MR. HARRIS EXPLAINS FILTERS WERE NOT DESIGNED RIGHT TO BEGIN WITH.

MR. BARNETT STATES TDEK IS VERY SUPPORTIVE. NEEDS NASHVILLE APPROVAL.

MR. HARRIS BEGINS EXPLAINING THAT SEWER ON OLD LAUREL HAS BEEN FIXED. WAYNE IS GOING MONDAY OR TUESDAY TO FIX DOUGLAS LAKE FOR \$3000.00. MR. BARNETT STATES DOUGLAS LAKE RESIDENTS NEED TO UNDERSTAND WE ARE ONLY FIXING THE LINE AND NOT ROAD.

MR. BARNETT ASKS ABOUT BEAR CREEK CROSSING? MR. HARRIS STATES A LOT OF IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

BOARD DISCUSSES BEAR CREEK CROSSING AGAIN MAKING VARIOUS COMMENTS ABOUT IT BEING CALLED "THE BLACK HOLE" AND HOW DANGEROUS IT IS TO GO THERE. MR. BARNETT SAYS WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO LOOK AT MAPS TO SEE EXACTLY WHERE THINGS ARE LOCATED.

MR. HARRIS ASKS ABOUT BORROWING \$500,000.00 TO PAY FOR MONTHLY EXPENSES AND FIXING PROBLEMS. NEED THAT MONEY TO PAY BILLS. SHOULD BE ABLE TO SHOW WE HAVE ENOUGH REVENUE TO OFFSET THAT BUT JUST NEED TO GET CAUGHT UP.

BILLS THAT WERE WRITTEN TODAY 8/10/2023 WERE WENT OVER AND BILLS THAT ARE DUE ARE GONE OVER.

MR. HARRIS STATES WORK DONE THIS WEEK WERE NOT INCLUDED AND WILL BE ON NEXT MONTH'S STATEMENT. MR. HARRIS STATES WE ARE OWED \$416,000.00, SHOULD WE BORROW \$600,000.00 TO GET BROWN WATER SOLVED WITH NEW FILTRATION SYSTEMS AND TO REMOVE HIGH IRON CONTENT?

AFTER DISCUSSION MR. HARRIS IN NOT CONFIDENT WE CAN GET ANY GRANTS FOR ANY MONEY.

MR. BARNETT DISCUSSES THINGS HE HAS DONE TO MAKE AN AREA FOR A FILTERATION THAT WAS STARTED 18 MONTHS AGO. HAS GRADED SITE AND BOUGHT FILTERATION BUT CANNOT FIND ANYONE TO BUILD A BUILDING. MR. OWINGS STATED THERE ARE LEGAL ISSUES SURROUNDING BOARD MEMBERS. MR. BARNETT STATES HE NEEDS A CONTRACTOR TO BUILD BLOCK BUILDING.

MR. BARNETT ASKED TO DISCUSS THE FORGOTTEN FOREST CONTRACT. MR. BARNETT STATES THAT CONTRACTOR SAYS ALL HOUSES WILL BE GRAVITY FED. MR. BARNETT STATES WE ARE NOT USING OUR DEVICES TO FIX IF THEY BELIEVE THEY OWN SYSTEM.

MR. HARRIS STATES THAT BERT NEEDS A NEW SERVICE TRUCK AND HELP IN CASE OF ANY ACCIDENTS OR PROBLEMS.

MR. HAYES NOW OPENS DISCUSSION FROM CUSTOMERS:

RON MITCHELL- ASKING ABOUT PAVING ROAD. SLAWOMIR GEBARA GAVE INFO WHERE HE HAD PAID DEPOSIT. WAS GIVEN INFO. MR. HARRIS STATES HE HAS TO LOOK INTO THIS. MR. HARRIS DISAGREED STRONGLY WITH AMOUNT. MR. GEBARA SAYS HE NEEDS 250 PIPE.

1406 LIN CREEK – SHOWED FILTERS FROM NANCY DOUGHERTY & HERSELF. GOING FROM WELL D. MR. HAYES SAYS WATER SHOULD BE COMING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN AND SHOULD HELP.

CUSTOMER[NO NAME]- COMPLAINT ABOUT RULES & REGULATIONS.

1519 LIN CREEK – PRAISED ESCUD. ASKED PEOPLE STOP LISTENING TO COMPLAINTS

CUSTOMER – NO NAME – CUSTOMER STATES WE HAVE STOPPED “THE BLEEDING” BUT BEFORE WE WERE AT A 75-75% WATER LOSS. NOW WE ARE BELOW 30%. CUSTOMER STATES HE UNDERSTANDS WE ARE A POOR PROSPECT FOR BANK. BUT PRAISES ESCUD FOR WHAT THEY HAVE DONE.

RANDY BOLIGER – ASKED ABOUT PAYING MONEY ONLINE. MR. HARRIS STATES PAYING ONLINE RIGHT NOW IS NOT AVAILABLE.

CUSTOMER[NO NAME] – ASKED ABOUT GENERATORS

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:41 P.M.