

DATE: April 21, 2010

Regular Meeting - Boothbay Harbor Sewer District Board of Trustees

PRESENT:

Jon Draper	Chris Higgins
Jim Stormont	Lisa Kristoff
Michael Feldmann	Kim Upham

Call to Order:

Jim Stormont called the meeting to order at 18:08 hrs.

Public Hearing: Commercial Street Pump Stations

Jim Stormont opened the public hearing for the commercial street pump station project.

This meeting was advertised in the Boothbay Register, which must be held as per Rural Development's guidelines. The loan amount of \$342,000 is being sought for the pump station work on Commercial Street and the Meadow. The predicted bond payment will be \$15,426 (interest and principal) and the note will be 3.25 percent over 40 years. The grant is for \$250,000 (42.33 percent of the total amount). The district's contribution to the project is \$8,000. Higgins said that loan funds are used first as the projects commence and then the grant dollars. If there is money left over, Higgins will petition Rural Development to use the money elsewhere – in this case for public service laterals associated with the Commercial Street pump station.

Required resolutions, required by Rural Development and the district's bonding agent had to be enacted and executed to receive the loan/grant monies.

Jon Draper made motion to accept the Letter of Conditions dated March 17, 2010. Michael Feldmann seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Jim Stormont made motion to execute and adopt RUS Bulletin 1780-28 "Loan Resolution Security Agreement". Michael Feldmann seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Jim Stormont made motion to execute and adopt RD Bulletin 1942-9 "Loan Resolution Security Agreement". Michael Feldmann seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Jon Draper made a motion to authorize Higgins to represent the district and carry out the requirements set forth in the letter of conditions.

The trustees discussed the setting a date for a district meeting. Jon Draper made motion to hold the meeting on Wednesday, May 19 at the Boothbay Harbor Town Office at 6 p.m.

All Boothbay Harbor residents and other properties using the facility will be encouraged to attend this meeting to discuss the projects, the funding mechanism, and to vote for the project.

Kim Reed-Upham of Captain Sawyer's Place on Commercial Street attended the meeting as representative for the downtown merchants. Upham expressed the shared concern within that community about the pending pump station replacement on Commercial Street. Specifically about what time of the year the work would be done and the impact the district could foresee it having on business during the project. Upham passed on the merchants' request for the work not to be completed in the fall season. Spring is quiet, but fall has become busier over the past few years. "I remember when Sea Street was done two years ago, those of us affected lost a lot of walk-in business," Upham said. District Superintendent Chris Higgins explained that the district had originally planned to begin the project last November through March. Higgins said the Commercial Street pump station replacement would not take very long. The district would simply be taking out the old can and dropping in the new one. He estimated, in total, the job would take two or three days.

"The real issue for us will be relocating one of the sewer lines coming from Fisherman's Wharf. We have to put a manhole in the road and re-direct the pipe toward the Whale Park and we will be on the Fisherman's side of the road. The turn going down to you (Captain Sawyer's) shouldn't be impacted at all – coming down Boothbay House Hill." Upham said visitors never use Boothbay House Hill to access her end of Commercial Street. While discussing potential road disruption the trustees and Upham discussed merchant concerns about the upcoming water main replacement project on Commercial. Higgins said he hoped the water district would lay the new pipe next to the current one to utilize the existing trench and, thereby, not have to dig up the road any further. The sewer district is applying for funding to re-line the sewer system in that area after the new main is in, going manhole to manhole.

Review of the Minutes of April 7, 2010

The minutes of April 7, 2010, were reviewed. After review, Jon Draper made motion to accept the minutes as presented. Jim Stormont seconded the motion. Vote to accept the amended minutes was unanimous.

Review of Warrant(s) 1162

Warrant 1161 was reviewed. Jim Stormont made motion to execute warrant as presented. Jon Draper seconded the motion. Vote to execute warrant was unanimous.

Execute Late Letters:

Jon Draper executed late letters for Krick, Robinson, and Harbor Pines.

Execute Sewer Lien Releases:

Jon Draper executed the lien release for Gudroe.

Execute Lien Notices:

Jon Draper executed the notices for Worth, Spear, Beal (2).

Spruce Point Bankruptcy:

Chris reported on the situation for Spruce Point Inn. Chris advised that the Inn owes \$32,069.70. The Inn has filed reorganization under Chapter 11. Chris reported that all of the documentation has been forwarded to Bill Logan for review. Bill will advise on the course of action. Chris advised that he had spoken to Joe Paolillo of the Inn regarding repayment of the existing debt. Joe asked to enter into a repayment plan. Chris advised that he come to the next meeting and discuss with the Trustees. Joe said that he would come to the next meeting.

First Quarter Budget Report:

Chris passed out the 1st quarter budget report for review and discussion at the next meeting.

Old Business:

Since its return, the district had to replace an oil seal in the rear of the machine; without it, sludge would spill out and potentially damage bearings. The seal was replaced – but the unit did not sound right. Higgins called Andritz and explained the problem, but they were unsure of what was causing the problem. Higgins said the torque is definitely too high. Prior to the unit being sent to Texas for repair, at half empty the torque level was at 10 percent to 14 percent – where it should be according to Higgins. Currently, at half-empty the torque reading is at 50 percent. Higgins told the trustees of his belief that the problem is in the cyclo-box that contains two sets of small timing gears. If a gear is off by even “one tooth”, the unit will generate more torque. The impact of the deficiency requires that the plant run the centrifuge manually or in relative speed mode, not in torque mode, or automatic and it must be checked frequently. Higgins said that while the centrifuge is operational it is inconvenient and requires labor unnecessary when the torque factor is working appropriately. “When you are talking about gears, teeth and shafts – that’s pretty basic mechanical stuff,” said Chairman Jim Stormont. “The person working on this should know which way the gear teeth will be moving.” Higgins said the ratios need to be corrected and that the company may have to reprogram the unit or take the gearbox apart and retune it. The unit, manufactured in France, has a unique cyclo-box, not one that Higgins could just drop in as a replacement. He suspects the issue at

hand may have resulted from the Texas company's technicians being unfamiliar with the specs of this particular box. "Higgins questioned who the guy is in Texas making decisions and getting things to happen and he is making things happen. Higgins said the company is relocating their shop right now. Higgins has run a phone line in so the Texas rep can tap in via modem to dial up and do whatever he can do from there. Stormont and trustees Jon Draper and Michael Feldmann voted unanimously to permit Higgins to move forward with resolution to the centrifuge's defect.

Stormont said it was time to send a firm letter to Texas stating that a mechanic from the company come to the facility and address the issue. "Attempting to fix the centrifuge long distance is not the same as being here, being focused, and correcting the problem," Stormont said. "They are not responding to a problem as a great opportunity to keep a customer for life. Right now, they are losing a customer for life." Higgins added that in his letter he will be requesting that the date of warranty be changed to whatever date the final repair on the centrifuge is completed.

New Business:

The West Harbor Pond Association contacted Higgins to request his attendance at its next meeting to discuss its planned water quality testing. Residents Elin Haugen and Rita Arnold are spearheading the testing efforts. The upshot of the meeting was that the district would assist the association with the testing. Specifically on the west side with construction phosphorous, where there has been a lot of vegetation removal. Runoff can be seen on the north side of the pond. The testing will be performed with eight high school students participating in "Charged Up Day" on Thursday, April 29. Higgins is preparing a training session for the students to show them how to measure conductivity, salinity, D.O. (dissolved oxygen), and pH. The kids will go out in the field, obtain the samples, go back to the district laboratory, and run some analysis.

Higgins distributed information about the pending California legislation regarding the guidelines for, and definition of "flushable" items. Higgins said the state of Maine is watching this pending legislation. "Depending on what happens with this bill out there, a bill may be submitted to the Maine legislature. This is a big problem," said Higgins. "We have to clean screens at businesses in our little neck of the woods – problems with wipes and other items that are flushed." Higgins said the terminology is misleading; many items, such as wipes are billed as being flushable, but do not break down – a major point that renders them a non-flushable item. "Even items like wipes are a problem – our pumps are grinder pumps and they are not made to handle that kind of material," Higgins said. "They will bind up. A lot of times those wipes contain polyester – and that's a problem."

Some items are cornstarch based and are supposed to be safe for septic systems. However, Higgins said going down the sewer line there is not enough resonance to break them down.

Public Comment:

None

Correspondence:

Chris reported that we have received official notice from USDA that we have received funding for the pump station projects.

Adjourn Regular Meeting:

Jon Draper made motion to adjourn regular meeting. Jim Stormont seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Meeting ended at 16:15 hrs.



Jim Stormont, Chairman

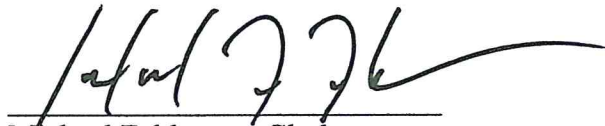
We, the undersigned, do hereby waive notice of the above meeting and do agree to the business transacted.



Jim Stormont, Chairman



Jonathan Draper, Treasurer.



Michael Feldmann, Clerk