

Village Board Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2020 at 6:00 PM – Rosendale Municipal Building

Duane Ciske, Village President

Trustees: Kurt Caramanidis, Larry Crook, Chuck Feldner, Barb Hoch, Tammy Pflum & Tricia Yeager

**Public Hearing:**

**Call Public Hearing to discuss the WWTF upgrades and the resulting sewer rate increase:**

President Ciske called Public Hearing to order at 6:01 PM. Tom Fitzwilliams from MSA gave a historical recap of the project. He stated the bids came in in January and looking really good and are close to budget. Tom stated he worked really hard with Dan Holdridge, Duane Ciske & the Board to save money. Tom Fitzwilliams explained the CWF. He then explained the rates and how they are established to repay back the loan, operation maintenance, etc. He mentioned that the final completion is estimated to be July 2021.

**Oral and/or written comments regarding the WWTF upgrades and the resulting sewer rate increase:**

President Ciske stated that everyone present can have their turn to talk and we will go around the room.

Jim Westphal asked about how long the loan is for? It was mentioned 20 years. He also asked if we have a scheduled increase in the future? It was mentioned that we do not.

Kerry Bartlett asked about the focus on work that lead up to the rate increase? Who did the grant? Can we get more grant money? Can we get a grant writer? Tom Fitzwilliams answered that MSA was the grant writer. He stated a year ago MSA looked at what was available. The also looked into a Block grant and stated that Rosendale doesn't qualify. He received the phosphorous related grant. He mentioned that we haven't heard from the Wisconsin Focus on Energy grant. Kerry asked if it fair to say we exhausted grant options? He asked what do we get for \$6.5M. Tom Fitzwilliams explained. We will be reusing 3 concrete structures and new equipment. Kerry asked for the life span of the upgrade. Tom Fitzwilliams said we plan for 20 years but people always get more. Equipment life is 15-20 years and likely longer if we take care of it. Kerry said the numbers were "sticker shock" in the project cost summary. Tom Fitzwilliams explained.

Don Mashuda stated he lives alone & sees people with large families in their home. He asked about why the same rates for everyone? President Ciske explained that we can't subsidize for one family to another ~ we don't have municipal water. The rate change happened in 2017.

Chad Kohlman asked if new plant will be able to handle if there is residential growth or new subdivision added to the Village. Tom Fitzwilliams stated our Village growth rate is modest and our new plant will be able to handle that.

Ron Hansen said there is one rate for residential, why are businesses different rates. Tom Fitzwilliams explained the State Plumbing Codes apply. Each business had different waste. Ron asked why aren't there meters at the convenience stores? Tom Fitzwilliams it's a situation where if you meter one, you need to meter all. Meters to install and maintain cost a lot and will drive the cost of the project up. He mentioned meters would still have a base cost per quarter and then there would also be a meter charge.

Kim Hansen asked if any businesses are metered now. Dan Holdridge answered yes, the schools, Tower View and Power Packaging are all metered.

It was mentioned that with the new WWTF, meters will not be used and rates will only be going off of the State Plumbing code.

Jerry Webber said the metering at Power Packaging still watches the flow and what strength of waste there is.

Carla Hiemstra questioned meters and was thinking ahead.

Barb Sullivan questioned the meters per her son Rich Sullivan. She states she understands that if you meter one you have to meter all. She questioned her meter at Tower View and asked when the new rates begin. It was mentioned that the new rates will begin with the April billing as that is for January, February and March 2020.

Jerry Webber from MSI Express (Power Packaging) wanted to thank Duane Ciske, Village Board, Dan Holdridge and Tom Fitzwilliams for all their work. He stated he sees what the plant can do (Power Packaging) and that Dan Holdridge has done a great job. Jerry Webber also stated that Power Packaging has paid every thing they were asked to pay. He stated that MSI Express plans to be a corporate partner with the Village.

Lynn McCoy was present and Dave McCoy spoke and mentioned that he wasn't at the last meeting. He asked if the WW Plant is going to be on the same site it is currently. He asked about the other land that was purchased and if it can be sold to put money back in bank? President Ciske said not sure at this time. Dave McCoy questioned the plant's capacity. Tom Fitzwilliams from MSA explained.

Pat Disterhaft stated that it is unfair to the single retired residents in the Village. She mentioned in the past about the 2 rates and it will be a financial burden. President Ciske stated that she understands. He mentioned that we can't subsidize for one another. Pat Disterhaft asked about the 2 rates. President Ciske stated that we found out we could not do that.

Brian Buechel stated we saw this coming 20 years ago. He said the money was saved and just put in a kiddie. He said Dan did a good job in the plant. He said we should have been looking at grants sooner.

Archie Hobbs said his questions were already answered.

Jerry Fairbank said he has been following this project for 20 years. He said how can the DNR come in and tell our small community what we can or have to do. He said if we stayed with the existing plant/property why do we have to have a \$70K well? President Ciske stated it needs to be a higher capacity. Tom Fitzwilliams explained the new well. He said it does 60 gallons per minute. He explained the well was bid out. Sams Well Drilling was the lowest bid. Jerry Fairbank asked about contamination and will the well have filtration. He also asked where the phosphorous comes from? Tom Fitzwilliams said we all need phosphorous and it comes naturally from normal day to day living. Tom Fitzwilliams explained the rules. Jerry Fairbank asked do we need to lower it. Tom Fitzwilliams said it makes algae grow really well, consumes to oxygen then fish can't live, etc.

President Ciske asked if there are any other comments.

Don Mashuda asked what's the average well depth. He stated his was at 200 feet.

Kerry Bartlett asked about a safety net of money in case something happens. President Ciske stated we will be putting money away in a fund. Kerry Bartlett asked about the "term" and if this is the way we have to do it. Tom Fitzwilliams mentioned we had legal advice/opinion. President Ciske stated he also had a legal opinion when we found out we couldn't have single and family rates.

#### **Adjourn Public Hearing:**

Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:52 PM.

AGENDA ITEM 1 - Call Village Board meeting to order – February 24, 2020 meeting was called to order after the public hearing was adjourned at 6:62 PM by President Duane Ciske and the following were present at this meeting:

Trustees: Kurt Caramanidis, Larry Crook, Barb Hoch, Tammy Pflum & Tricia Yeager

Staff: Dan Holdridge, Public Works Director; Kevin Verdine, Chief of Police & Emily Wirkus, Clerk-Treasurer

AGENDA ITEM 2 - Pledge of the Allegiance

AGENDA ITEM 3 - Approve minutes of 1-27-2020 meeting, as circulated – Motion was made by Trustees Crook/Hoch to approve the minutes of the 1-27-2020 meeting. Motion was carried by a 6-0-1 roll call. Trustee Feldner was absent.

AGENDA ITEM 4 - Approve bid for the WWTF upgrade – It was stated that CD Smith was awarded the project. Motion was made to approve all bids & proposals for the WWTF upgrade totaling \$6,548,368.00 by Trustees Caramanidis/Pflum. Motion was carried by a 6-0-1 roll call. Trustee Feldner was absent.

AGENDA ITEM 5 - Approve resolution for sewer rate increase – President Ciske read the resolution with the rates. Motion was made by Trustees Crook/Pflum to approve the resolution for sewer rate increase. Motion was carried by a 6-0-1 roll call. Trustee Feldner was absent.

AGENDA ITEM 6 - Approve checks dated January 1, 2020 through January 31, 2020 – Motion was made by Trustees Pflum/Hoch to approve checks dated January 1, 2020 through January 31, 2020. Motion was carried by a 6-0-1 roll call. Trustee Feldner was absent.

AGENDA ITEM 7 - Next Village Board meeting will be held on Monday, March 23, 3030 – 211 N. Grant St., at 6:00 PM

AGENDA ITEM 8 - Correspondence – Clerk Emily Wirkus read a letter that was received from Mark Isaac on behalf of the Men's Softball League with their \$100 donation to the parks.

AGENDA ITEM 9 - President's report – Nothing mentioned.

AGENDA ITEM 10 - Adjourn the meeting – Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

