

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LAVALE SANITARY COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 10, 2020

The regular meeting of the Commissioners of the LaVale Sanitary Commission was held at the Commission's office in LaVale, Maryland on Thursday, December 10, 2020, at 9:00 AM.

Chairman Gehauf Commissioner George attended at the Commission office. Commissioner Young, Hensel and Deffenbaugh attended via Zoom. Director of Operations Wendt and Maintenance Supervisor Brodie were present at the office.

Chairman Gehauf called the meeting to order and stated the minutes of the meeting of November 12, 2020 had been mailed to the Commissioners. Commissioner Hensel moved that the minutes be approved. Commissioner Deffenbaugh seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Chairman Gehauf asked Mr. Brodie for his maintenance report. Mr. Brodie stated that Commission personnel had completed the problem sewer list for the quarter. He went on to say that Commission personnel had cleared a blockage at 1065 Pine Street. He stated the section of line was problematic and needed to be replaced.

Mr. Brodie briefed the Commission on multiple water main breaks. He stated the breaks were on National Highway and Henry Drive. He stated Commission personnel had repaired both and that the restoration had been completed. He went on to say that service lines at 615 Braddock Avenue and 703 LaVale Terrace had failed and were scheduled to be replaced by the property owners.

Mr. Brodie then briefed the Commission on a leak in Zone 7. He stated the leak had started on November 25, and Commission personnel had been unable to locate the leak. Discussion followed concerning the leak and the attempts to locate it. Mr. Brodie stated he had requested the help of Maryland Rural Water and they were scheduled to send in additional personnel on Monday December 14, 2020 to help the Commission.

Mr. Brodie then briefed the Commission on the status of the water and sewer main extension on Artic Avenue. He stated the contractor was installing the pipe but required constant Commission inspection. Discussion followed concerning the Commissions policy of supplying materials for main extension. Mr. Wendt stated he would like to see the policy changed such that the Commission only supplied materials for extensions serving five or more properties. He stated it was no longer cost effective for any fewer properties. Commissioner Hensel moved the policy be updated to five or more properties. Commissioner Deffenbaugh seconded and it was unanimously carried.



Mr. Brodie opened discussion on the tap for the State Police Barracks. He stated the tap was originally to be installed in August 2020 and had been pushed back at the convenience of the Contractor. He stated that with the current situations within the Commission, he no longer had the personnel to install the tap.

Discussion opened regarding the Commission and the recent increase in positive COVID 19 cases. Mr. Wendt stated that on December 5, 2020 one employee had tested positive and on December 8, 2020 had been hospitalized. He went on to say that a second employee had tested on December 9, 2020 and was also positive. Mr. Wendt stated that the level of frustration due to the lack of information available to utility workers was increasing exponentially. Extensive discussion followed concerning the issues and how the Commission should respond. Commissioner Young moved the Commission go into emergency mode and only respond to issues within its own system. He stated all interaction with the public should be kept to an absolute minimum. Commissioner George seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Wendt then presented the Commission with copies of the Water, Sewer, and Revenue reports for November 2020.

During October 2020, lost water was 53,556 gallons per day.

During November 2020, lost water was 43,445 gallons per day.

Zone 1 Lost	0 Gallons per day	Zone 2 Lost	13,286 Gallons per day
Zone 3 Lost	10,497 Gallons per day	Zone 4 Lost	2,917 Gallons per day
Zone 5 Lost	10,637 Gallons per day	Zone 5A Lost	2,206 Gallons per day
Zone 6 Lost	9,406 Gallons per day	Zone 7 Lost	0 Gallons per day
Zone 8 Lost	0 Gallons per day		

Discussion continued concerning the reports.

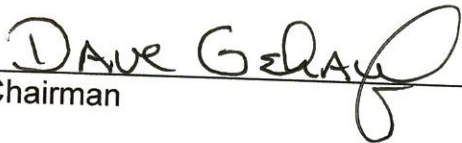
Under the heading of Communications, Mr. Wendt updated the Commission on the bid opening for the Locust Grove Pump Station and the water main/force main project. Mr. Wendt stated the apparent low bidder for the water main/force main was First Fruits Excavating with a bid of \$4,793,790.00. The apparent low bidder for the pump station was Carl Belt Inc. with a bid of \$11,671,487.00. Discussion followed concerning the bids. Commissioner Young stated that the bid submitted by First Fruits had been challenged by Carl Belt Inc. He went on to say Belt had questioned the ability of First Fruits to meet the contract specifications. Mr. Wendt stated the final determination as to bidder eligibility would be determined by the engineer. Mr. Young then stated that the total bid package was less than the engineers estimates and under the current funding package.

Mr. Wendt then presented the Commission with a sewer requests for 13 Holly Avenue and 320 National Highway. Mr. Wendt stated the leak on Holly Avenue was on a service line and the amount of the credit was \$1,100.68. The leak at 320 National Highway was also on a service line and the amount of the credit was \$80.45. Commissioner George moved the credits be approved. Commissioner Young seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Wendt presented the Commission with a proposal from Davenport Financial for the refinancing of the Commission's long-term debt. He stated the proposal was for \$40,000.00 if the Commission refinanced through their sources. If the Commission decided not to use their financing package there would be no charge. Discussion continued concerning the proposal, Commissioner George moved the proposal be accepted. Commissioner Young seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Under the heading of Old Business, Chairman Gehauf opened discussion about the anniversary recognition benefit. Discussion followed concerning the benefit. As no agreement could be reached the benefit was tabled until the next meeting.

Chairman Gehauf moved the public meeting be closed. Commissioner Deffenbaugh seconded and it was unanimously carried. The public meeting was closed at 10:35 AM.

  
Chairman

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Secretary-Treasurer