

TOWN OF CHESTERTON SERVICE UTILITY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Board members L. Brandt, A. Michel, S. McCord, J. Raffin and J. Schnadenberg, Supt. D. Ryan, Council Member Liaison D. Lafata, Clerk- Treasurer S. Kuziela, Engineer M. O'Dell, Attorney C. Parkinson and C. Nolan and Secretary D. Schoenfelt. Absent was Town Manager B. Doyle.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

S. McCord moved to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2019 meeting, seconded by A. Michel, approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

S. McCord moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by J. Schnadenberg, approved by unanimous voice vote.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Greg Babcock addressed the Board to request to meet with Council to discuss a user agreement for a potential development on the corner of Pearson Road and 1050N. It is outside of the Town boundaries and will have a total of 76 living units.
2. S. McCord moved to approve Mr. Babcock to work with our lawyers on a user agreement, seconded by A. Michel, approved by unanimous voice vote.
3. Emerson Delaney introduced a representative to speak on the behalf of Damon Run.
4. Ron Stone who resides at 36 Zane Ct., Liberty Township addressed the Board on behalf of the residents of Damon Run Conservancy district to ask them to consider sewer access for the district. Due to the IURC decreasing the expected revenues by more than half, the annual debt-service is estimated at \$819,814 which is being paid by Damon Run property owners. It now is expected that Valparaiso City Utilities will be serving Damon Run but Mr. Stone is concerned this may not be a benefit to the residents. He also wondered why Chesterton Utility was never considered to offer sewer service in the first place. He also wondered why a recently declared 10 mile sewer service radius declared by Valparaiso impinges on a four mile radius declared by Chesterton a long time ago.
5. L. Brandt said they would be reviewing the VCU acquisition and the Board will be putting together a reaction in the near future.

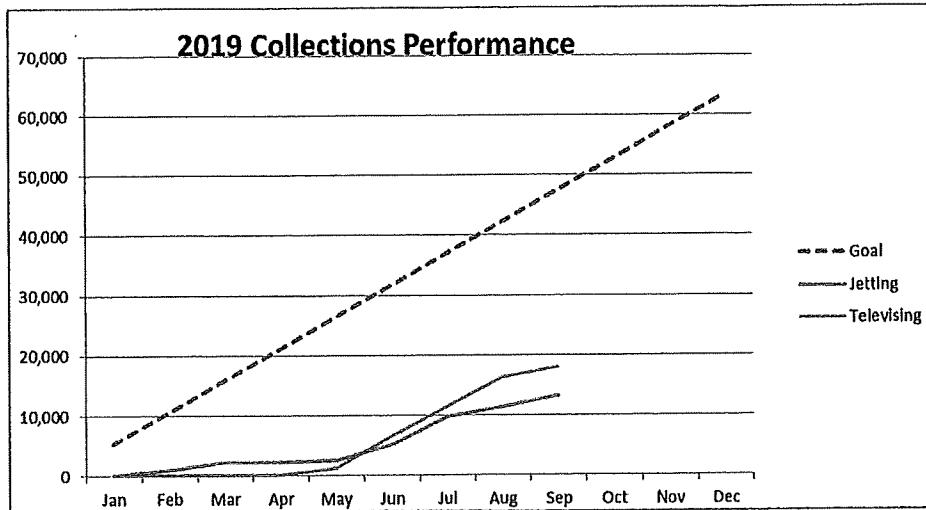
Superintendent's Report

Administration

1. We received our new and approved NPDES permit from IDEM, as well as the approved Streamlined Mercury Variance. Both are effective from 11/1/19 through 10/31/24. The applications for these were completed in-house, saving us over \$10k.
2. Heavy rain on 9/27 – 9/27 required extra hours by our plant staff. Over 989,000 gallons was stored in the Wet Weather Basin and later treated. Erratic operation of the 60" influent control gate contributed to an overflow of approximately 53,000 gallons to the river. We are currently working on the adjustment of this gate to prevent or minimize future related overflows.
3. I have had several discussions with our attorney regarding Valparaiso purchasing the sewer assets of the Damon Run Conservancy District. It appears we are still in the investigative stage.
4. The replacement of the pipe on our pipe bridge over the river behind the plant is anticipated to take place during the week of October 21st.
5. We hauled 221 yards of biosolids to the farm with assistance from the Street Dept. Their assistance is greatly appreciated.
6. I am in the process of preparing our Annual Report for our Streamlined Mercury Variance. This is due to IDEM by 11/1/19.

Collections

1. There were no pump failures this month.
2. We televised 1,828 feet and jetted 1,865 feet.
3. We completed 280 locates and 7 inspections.
4. The Collection crew worked on some in-house control panel training.
5. The vac crew has completed cleaning wet wells at our lift stations.
6. We pulled two huge rag balls out of a check valve and pump at the Jewel-Osco lift station.
7. The camera crew inspected all of the sanitary sewers in Easton Park as part of our due diligence prior to accepting maintenance responsibility.
8. The camera crew also inspected several of the storm sewers in Easton Park for the same reason.
9. The camera crew was asked to video the 30" storm sewer on Porter Ave. to determine the cause of a sinkhole near 8th St.
10. We assisted the street dept. with confined space entry for a storm sewer in Chestnut Hills.
11. We fixed a sinkhole in Crocker due to a utility boring that hit a holding tank.



Treatment

1. Streamlined Mercury Minimization/Variance Program
 - a. Continuing to meet the annual requirements.
2. Maintenance Tasks
 - a. Aeration Tanks #1, #2 and #6 were drained, cleaned and inspected.
 - b. Our main plant building sanitary lift station failed due to plugging and was cleaned out.
 - c. Our plant main drain sewer was plugged and jet cleaned to open.
 - d. Annual service to the plants 2 stand-by power generators was performed.
 - e. We continue to experience frequent plugging of our Primary Digester overflow pipe system. We've had Collections come over and jet it several times. We are now manually removing the some of the solids built-up between the floating cover and the wall and researching operational changes to reduce this.
3. Pre-Treatment
 - a. The semi-annual inspection, sampling and lab analysis for our 2 industrial customers was performed for the second half of 2019.
 - b. Efforts are ongoing to monitor industry effluents and commercial grease traps.
 - c. We continue to progress on reviewing our Local Limits in our Sewer Use Ordinance, including the Bi-monthly metals testing of the Plant influent/effluent for baseline monitoring.

Engineer's Report – None

Town of Porter Report - None

BOARD REPORT

Chesterton – 56% Porter – 48% Indian Boundary – 58%

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS – None

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

1. J. Schadenberg expressed concern over taking on too many outside users and also said he did not know all the details of Damon Run and needs more information.
2. S. McCord encouraged everyone to get out and vote.
3. A. Michel reminded us to be watchful on Halloween for all the kids.

ADJOURNMENT

S. McCord moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., seconded J. Raffin, approved by unanimous voice vote.

Lawrence Brandt

Chairman

Deb Schoenfelt

Secretary