

# **TOWN OF CHESTERTON SERVICE UTILITY BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 17, 2020**

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, Engineer M. O'Dell, Clerk-Treasurer C. Udvard, Council Member Liaison S. Darnell, Town Manager B. Doyle, Attorney C. Parkinson and Secretary D. Schoenfelt. Absent was Attorney C. Nolan.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

S. McCord moved to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2020 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 – None**

### **Superintendent's Report**

#### **Administration**

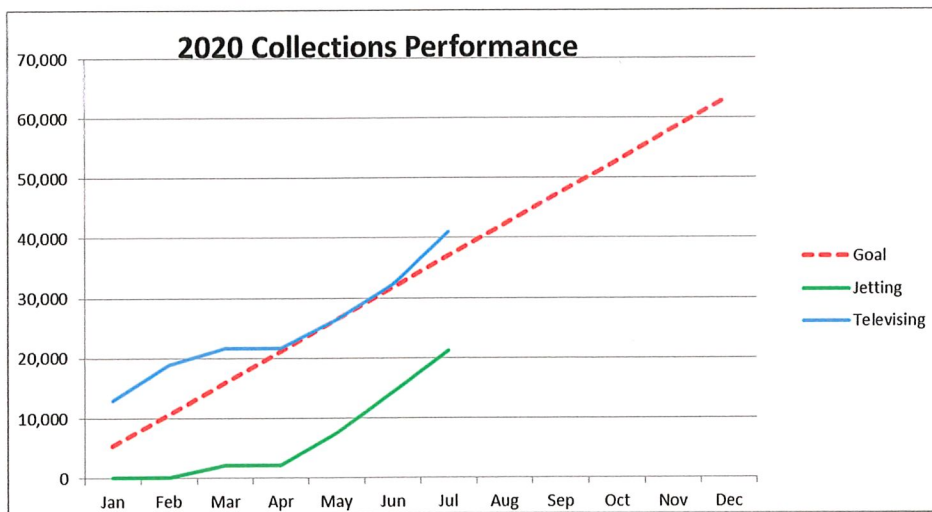
1. I am expecting to take delivery on our new dump truck by 8/14.
2. The sinkhole just west of 666 Wabash is being monitored for change.
3. I was able to find a backhoe in-stock. The sales paperwork should be completed prior to this meeting. The final price, with trade, should be \$98,820. List price was \$160k.
4. We hauled 60 yards of sludge to the farm.
5. All employees continue to remain healthy during this pandemic event.
6. IURC Cause No. 45312: Our proposed service territory order No. 2020-07 was filed with the IURC, after all parties reviewed it and presented no objections. The IURC has since excused witnesses from attending the hearing during the week of 8/17 and chose to conduct the hearing via WebEx, making it appear as if the hearing will be a formality with the Commission likely approving the regulated territory as requested. The end of this mission appears to be in sight!
7. Met with reps from Gasvoda at 19<sup>th</sup> & Morgan lift station in preparation for upgrading the old Cantex style lift station.
8. We have experienced more issue at the Pioneer Point lift station and will be working on getting elevations between there and the Kat lift station to assess the feasibility of eliminating the Pioneer Point lift station by installing a gravity sewer between the two. It

may be prudent to put our energy into replacing or upgrading Pioneer Point before we do 19<sup>th</sup> & Morgan.

9. As of this writing, it is unknown whether or not our governor will be extending his executive order prohibiting utilities from disconnecting services. Discussion regarding this, and the application of penalties will need to take place during the meeting.
10. Payment Plan Policy: will need to discuss during the meeting.
11. ACH: Should have a summary of the service facts at our meeting.

## Collections

1. There were no pump failures this month.
2. We televised 8,818 feet and jetted 6,860 feet.
3. We completed 355 locates and 5 inspections.
4. Jetting crew is working south of Porter and 20<sup>th</sup>, heading west to 23<sup>rd</sup> and Union, and then north toward the 19<sup>th</sup> and Morgan lift station.
5. The camera crew has been working on Wabash, between 8<sup>th</sup> and Locust, trying to identify active and inactive services in preparation for lining the sewer main.
6. The new control panel installation was completed at our Southpoint lift station.
7. Filled in the sinkhole at 666 Wabash again.
8. We replaced a float tree in Fox Chase.



## Treatment

1. Streamlined Mercury Minimization/Variance Program
  - a. Continuing to meet the annual requirements.
2. Maintenance Tasks
  - a. Final clarifiers #1 and #2 were cleaned and inspected. We had to install a new lower tube seal and skimmer seal on #2 due to wear.

- b. We had to send in the effluent auto sampler controller for diagnostics due to failure.
- c. We are still reviewing options for our turbo blower heater project since the estimates came in higher than expected.
- d. We repaired a digester gas condensate leak.
- e. We diagnosed and fixed the cause of the thermal/oil alarm on influent pump #3.
- f. We are evaluating the options for replacement of the back-driving cooling fan on the centrifuge.

3. Pre-Treatment/Lab

- a. Efforts are ongoing to monitor industry effluents and commercial grease traps. We are trying to get back to the regular frequency of visits since the Covid challenges started.

**Engineer's Report**

1. M. O'Dell reported they are working on the Pioneer lift station.

**Town of Porter Report – None**

**BOARD REPORT**

Chesterton – 57%    Porter – 45%    Indian Boundary – 51%

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. The proposed flexible payment plan was discussed. J. Schnadeberg suggested the plan be for up to 12 months. L. Brandt was worried about people who still are still out of work. D. Ryan said shut-offs would not begin until November.
2. S. McCord moved to delay penalty payment plan vote until the next meeting and extend moratorium on shut-offs, seconded by J. Schnadenberg, approved by unanimous voice vote.
3. J. Schnadenberg then moved to amend the motion to approve the flexible payment plan and extend the period for payments for up to 12 months, seconded by S. McCord, approved by unanimous voice vote.
3. S. Schnadenberg also suggested people on the payment plan need to get notification of the payments they owe on their bills so they will be sure to make the payments. D. Ryan will also put information on the website.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. J. Raffin moved to approve D. Ryan to work on ACH for customer payments, seconded by S. McCord, approved by unanimous voice vote.

**COMMENTS**

- 1. S. McCord expressed his desire for everyone to stay safe during these Covid 19 times.
- 2. L. Brandt congratulated B. Doyle on his upcoming retirement.

**ADJOURNMENT**

J. Schnadenberg moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m., seconded by S. McCord, approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Lawrence Brandt Chairman

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Deb Schoenfelt Secretary