

Burns Harbor Sanitary Board

Minutes of Wednesday, March 30, 2016

A regular meeting of the Burns Harbor Sanitary Board was called to order by President Toni Biancardi at 7:00pm. Present at roll call were James Constantine, Eric Hull, and Ray Poparad. Rick Balunda, Andy Bozak and Marcus Rogala were absent.

Also present were *Temporary Secretary* Marge Falbo, Sanitary Superintendent Bill Arney, Global Engineering Jeanette Hicks and Attorney Clay Patton.

Minutes

Poparad moved to approve the minutes of February 17, 2016. Hull seconded the motion. Motion carried by all in favor vote.

Correspondence

None.

Sanitary Report

Arney had nothing to add from last month's report except for a couple of call outs on Lift Station 2 for power issues. Station 2 had an Add a Phase but the problem which was actually a NIPSCO issue. The issue was a transformer with a bad connection which resulted in voltage failure at the Lift Station so there wasn't enough voltage to run the pump. Arney reports NIPSCO has a preliminary proposal which doesn't bind us since we would have to sign a contract, it doesn't bind us to the work but a high end, worst case scenario, with what I have provided them for the pump, motors and the total voltage that we would need, 3 strands of 3 phase, the new higher conductor wire and all the work totals \$50,424. Constantine states he figured about \$25,000.

Biancardi asks if this is for all Lift Stations. Arney states this is just for Lift Station 3 and this is at the high end, it may be a little lower when that actually get into construction. They bid on the higher side because they never know what they'll run into.

Hull asks what's a little lower.

Arney states probably \$1,000 at most.

Biancardi asks if the alternative is Phase Perfect. Arney states the Phase Perfect is on order and it won't cost us. Andy is working on that to see if that works for us, to stop our issues that we're having. It will take some configuration of our Lift Station starter motors. Gas Voda is taking care taking of the pumps we have currently because we are contracted with them. Andy and Vaughn promise to make sure that they work correctly and they're looking at moving us over to Phase Perfect.

Poparad asks if Lift Station 3 is the only one with Phase Perfect and asks if the others will still have Add a Phase.

Arney state the other two will still have Add a Phase and comments we've never had Add a Phase power dropping problems but we've had to replace the compactors. Biancardi as if the new grinder pumps are causing the power issue. Arney states we don't have enough power to use the grinder pumps, they don't have the start-up power we need. Andy (NIPSCO) was going to draw up the official contract, but I told him not to go any further until he hears from me. Biancardi asks if Gas Voda is doing the Phase Perfect at their expense. Arney states yes and is on order and from his understanding. If Gas Voda decides for some reason there's an expense he will bring it back to the Board. As of now, Andy is saying they are covering everything.

Constantine states that if at some point we decide to go with NIPSCO, \$54,000 or less, how much more is it going to cost to change everything at that Lift Station to work on 3 phase then.

Arney states it is his assumption that Andy would be more than willing to change our starters and to make that Add a Phase disappear and it would be a lot less expensive on him than adding the Phase Perfect because the Add a Phase would cost close to \$10,000.

Arney says you are eliminating Add a Phase and putting in voltage and you just have to change the motors to accept that voltage. Poparad states which means opening them up moving the wires around. Arney states it's fairly inexpensive.

Constantine asks if we upgrade to 3 Phase it's only going to be one charge. It wouldn't cost to change the wires on the motors.

Arney states he would like to think so without exploring that. Josh from NIPSCO said that if we decided to wait we would possibly pay more because of a huge increase in their wire. The conductor wire is very expensive and it does go up like everything else and he doesn't don't think the prices will go down.

Poparad moved to continue with Gas Voda for the Phase Perfect. Constantine seconded the motion. Motion carried by all in favor vote.

Old Porter Road Project

Hicks states they started the field work on Old Porter Road project.

Biancardi ask if it's going to take care of the drainage problem.

Hicks states it seems like there is a drainage point under the railroad to the wetland area. The retention pond drains into the inlets as well.

Biancardi states it is for the area behind the dealerships where the water always settles.

Hicks confirms.

Biancardi asks if next month Hicks will have more information and states the next meeting is only a couple of weeks away.

Hicks confirms.

Old Business

Poparad states old business being the two taps on one property.

Biancardi states we will be talking about the appeal process tonight. We have some suggested language we will share and discuss tonight. We can set it for a public hearing next month that can go to the Council and hopefully be approved within the next 60 days.

Public Hearing

Amendments to make certain changes to Board Membership, Terms of Appointment, and Organization of the Board

Biancardi Opens Public Hearing

Amendments to Chapter 2

Administration Chapter of the Town Code

Changes would be that the board would consist of five instead of seven members. One member would be duly elected or appointed member of the Burns Harbor Town Council. Three members shall be residents of the Town of Burns Harbor appointed by the Burns Harbor Town Council. And one member shall be nominated by the entity operating the steel making facility so that would be Rick who sits now. Neither of the Town Council appointees referred to in Subsection 3 and C shall be paid and unpaid municipal officer or employee of the Board and or Town. Terms of appointments and these citizen members would have staggered terms so the first one would start 2016, end 2016, 2017 and 2018 so that as Clay mentioned they won't all go off at the same time. We will retain people who have some of the knowledge of the Board.

Organization remains the same as far as having a Chairperson, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer.

Poparad states the only change is the \$500/year salary.

Biancardi state the \$500/year salary was addressed in the Salary Ordinance so the three citizen members would receive a stipend of \$500/year for serving.

Biancardi asks for public comment in favor or opposition of the amendments to Chapter 2.

There was no public comment.Fa

Biancardi closes the public comment.

Poparad moved to accept the Amendment to Chapter 2. Hull seconded the motion. Motion carried by all in favor vote.

New Business

Appeal Process

To provide for an appeal if a resident or a user of the system would like to ask for any type of relief. Patton and Biancardi worked on language for Section 8 Chapter 18 which is the Sewer Use Ordinance.

The language reads:

Any user who wishes to appeal a decision of the Sanitary Board or Sewer Rate and Use Ordinance must file a written appeal within one year of the occurrence or basis for the appeal. Said appeal is to be filed with the Secretary of the Sanitary Board on a form prepared and provided by the town. Any other documentary evidence that the user wishes to Board to consider must be submitted with the completed appeal form. The matter will be placed on the agenda of an upcoming Board meeting and the user shall appear to present his or her case. The burden of proof is on the user to prove an extenuating circumstance or undue hardship that would warrant the Board's granting of the appeal. The Board shall hear the request and may take it under advisement, however, the Board must issue a decision within 60 days of the hearing.

Constantine asks if timeframe can be shortened to 30 days instead of 60 days because there may issues need to be addressed sooner.

Biancardi states if the Board is aware of this type of issue they can act more quickly, but if it were a situation that required research it would allow us the time to consider it. If it were an emergency the Board would move.

Biancardi states if a resident provides the paperwork in advance of a meeting and everyone has done the research and there aren't any questions we could decide that evening.

Poparad asks when the form will be available so residents can fill it out and present it.

Biancardi states if this is the language we want to go with we would set this for a public hearing for next month. The Council will adopt it and as soon as it's adopted it becomes effective immediately. Therefore, in one month you could file the appeal. The form for paperwork can be created in between that time.

Mr. Knapp appealed in person, without paperwork on February 17 and asks if he has to go through this process again.

Biancardi state that we didn't have a process for an appeal at that time.

Mr. Knapp states he has to wait until next month and then another 60 days to resolve his issue.

Poparad states it is possible, yes.

Mr. Knapp will have to file paperwork which will be approved by the Town Council before his issue can be resolved.

Poparad moved to go with the Amendment and to set a Public Hearing for April 20. Hull seconded the motion. Motion carried by all in favor vote.

Approval of Claims with 4 or more Signatures

Poparad moved to approve claims for 4 or more Signatures. Hull seconded the motion. Motion carried by all in favor vote.

Spending Review

None

Delinquencies

Biancardi states new Sanitary clerk, Corinne, will review process after she starts on April 11.

Flow Report

Arney reports high flow is due to 1½ rain fall.

Miscellaneous

Arney reports Eagle Services will be out to do clearing. Gas Voda will be out to recalibrate our quarterly flow meters. This will reflect on the next report.

Arney reports he had preliminary discussions with Poparad because it involves the Street Department, as well. We need to look at real estate for the Sewer Department and a storage building to house pumps, trucks and tanker. Price would be \$90,000, for building, installation doors, concrete work, everything is included. The building will go where the old gun range stood. The building would be used for storage only, no electric, gas, running water or sewer.

Poparad moved to get quotes for Storage Building. Constantine seconded the motion. Motion carried by all in favor vote.

Good of the Order of the Community & Any Other Business

None

Announcements

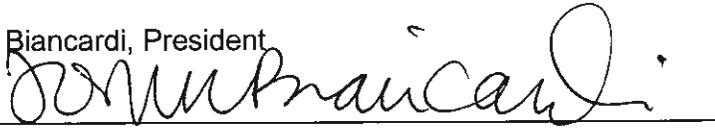
Next Meeting April 20, 2016

Adjourn

Poparad moved to adjourn at 7:46pm. Hull seconded the motion. Motion carried by all in favor vote.

APPROVED

Toni Biancardi, President

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Toni Biancardi", written over a horizontal line.

Crimine Peppers, Secretary