

ROCK HALL UTILITIES BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 29, 2019

**Meeting minutes are transcribed in a summarized format. Tape recording of actual discussion is available at Town Office.*

Mayor Jacobs called the Rock Hall Utilities Board Meeting to order at 6:08 PM on July 29, 2019. In attendance were Vice Mayor Andrews, Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Edwards and Councilmember Collyer.

Vice Mayor Andrews made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Vice Mayor Andrews said she cannot approve the minutes of June 3, 2019 without seeing the correction of April 29, 2019 minutes.

The sewer allocation report was given by Mayor Jacobs.

A sewer credit was requested by Nancy Conway. The council asked if she could come before the Utilities Board on September 3, 2019 at 6:00 PM

Sewer Plant Issues

In everyone's packet there is a final draft of the RFP for the Sewer Plant ENR Upgrade Project. Vicki with SERCAP reviewed and found a couple of typos. They will be corrected. MDE approved. This does not have to be a formal vote just mentioned in the minutes. There will be an ad put in the paper of the first page of this draft which outlines dates for proposals. There will be a pre-proposal meeting on August 22, 2019 for verbal questions. All proposals must be received by September 5, 2019. October 10, 2019 is the targeted award date. The study will then be executed within a 90-day window. When the engineer has finished the report, the MDE will review and consider the grant effective on July 1, 2021. \$200,000 is needed now to replace headworks and reduce sludge level in digestors which ENR would not cover.

There are two return pumps that need to be immediately replaced at the sewer plant. The cost estimate is \$59,000. ENR would cover 100% of the cost to replace these pumps, but the pumps will not make it until the grant is here. Each pump's impellers could be rebuilt at an estimated cost of \$4,500 per pump. Mayor Jacobs said these pumps will really need to be replaced not rebuilt.

The bearings to be replaced in the orbiter have been ordered.

Water Plant

There are three filters in place at the water plant after the clarifier. One filter tank is horizontal and to replace it would be \$375,000. Of the two vertical filter tanks, one does not work. The other is not in good shape. They will cost \$200,000 to replace. A third vertical filter tank is no longer there.

The new backflow preventer has been installed. Councilmember Jones asked if the alarm system has been solved. Mayor Jacobs has had one quote for ~~1884.40~~ and has asked Atlantic Security for another quote.

Other Issues

A DNR representative, Bunky Luffman was here for the dedication ceremony of the new Lagoon Playground Equipment. He said there were grants for town wide ditch renovation and flooding. Mayor Jacobs will be looking into that.

The Tour of the Sewer Plant has been rescheduled until 2:00 PM this Saturday.

Waterman's Crabhouse has again asked for a credit for the first quarter of his water bill. He has paid the second quarter but has not paid the first quarter. Mayor Jacobs met Taylor there at 8:00 AM when there should be no activity in the restaurant and there did not seem to be a leak. Councilmember Collyer motioned we put off the credit until the other quarters have past and they can be compared. Councilmember Edwards seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Maryland Rural Water needed a map to our water and sewer lines. Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Sholler and Mr. Zimmerman who have found the plans and organized our others. Mrs. Sholler is also looking into grants for beach grasses.

MDE has approved a grant for automated water meters in the amount of \$699,000. The current project cost estimate is \$1,200,000. The town would need to pay 50% of the cost or \$600,000.

The Rt. 20 sewer line repair from Bramble was \$60,000. None of these numbers are in the budget. Grant money may be available through MDE or USDA. The last stage will be to replace removed asphalt.

For the Good of the Town


David Jones asked what was said about the Edesville area because they could not hear in the back. He was told they only found the plans for that area had been found.

Gren Whitman asked if there was a an ok for issuing an RFP for engineering on Waste Water. Mayor Jacobs said this was done without a vote and was done informally.

Jen Barnes asked if the filters at the water plant were so critical, why was there a waiting. Mayor Jacobs explained that it was just a challenge of funding.

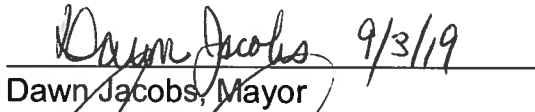
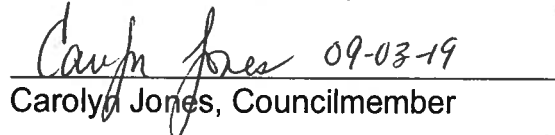
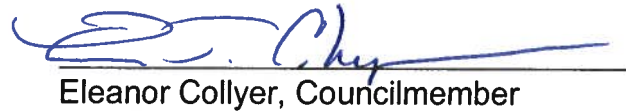
Councilmember Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM.
Councilmember Collyer seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted:



Candy Porter/ Asst. Clerk Treasurer

Approved by:


Dawn Jacobs, Mayor
Beth Andrews, Vice Mayor
Carolyn Jones, Councilmember
Timmy Edwards, Councilmember
Eleanor Collyer, Councilmember