

**VEAZIE SEWER DISTRICT
OCTOBER 19, 2011 – MINUTES
6:30 P.M.**

Attended by: Chair Esther Bushway, Trustees Gary Brown and Rob Tomilson, Supt. Gary Brooks, Tammy Olson, and members of the public.

- 1) Call Meeting to Order – Esther called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- 2) Consider Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2011– Rob moved to accept the minutes of September 14, 2011 as written; Gary seconded. Vote 3-0, passes.
- 3) Review Agenda – There were no changes to the agenda.
- 4) Lien Update – Tammy reported that the District currently owns four properties formerly owned by Clyde and Ekaterine Crowe. The liens on the properties matured on October 9, 2011. Tammy then reviewed the timeline for the lien process. The liens that have matured are for the Crowes' 3rd quarter 2009 sewer bill. That bill was sent October 1, 2009, due November 1, 2009, and considered overdue on February 1, 2010. Warning letters were sent out in February 2010, Notices of Debt were sent in March 2010, and the liens were filed on April 9, 2010. Liens mature in 18 months, and the District's liens foreclose automatically. We are not required to send out a 30-day notice before the maturity date, but we do. Those notices were sent to the Crowes prior to these liens maturing. Esther asked if they were sent by certified mail, and Tammy said that all notices are sent by certified mail. Tammy then explained that if they came in before the lien matured, they would only have to pay the amount of that lien plus the fees. When a lien matures, we sent another notice by certified mail giving them 30 days to pay the entire balance. Those notices have been sent to the Crowes with a deadline for payment of November 9, 2011. The location of the properties and history of payments were discussed, including the Town's previously matured liens. Rob asked if selling the properties was a 30-day or 90-day process, and the fact that there was no set timeline was discussed. Rob also asked about collecting the rent paid on those properties, and the Trustees agreed to wait until November 9th. Supt. Brooks said that he met with Interim Town Manager Larry Varisco and informed him about the maturing liens and history of the properties. Tammy added that we have liability insurance on the properties.
- 5) Superintendent's Report – a) The facility is running well. b) Supt. Brooks distributed photos of the auger monster. On the auger portion, there is a brush that works on the screen. This brush needed to be replaced and we had one on-site. Supt. Brooks pointed out a tear in the stainless steel screen. Supt. Brooks described how the auger and screen work. This work was just completed yesterday, so we don't yet have prices for a new screen. Rob asked about the location and size of the tear, and Supt. Brooks stated that the tear was about 2/3 of the way up and about 8 to 12 inches long. The work was done in-house and the auger monster was only out of service about 6 to 7 hours. c) The baffle inspection report was included in the packets along with the cost to replace the baffles. Rob asked if the baffles were repairable, and Supt. Brooks said that JPS had already repaired what they could. d) We rebuilt two manholes on Oak Grove. They were old,

brick manholes that were caving in. We also lowered a manhole on Buck Hill. Supt. Brooks stated that the road had settled quite a bit. Rob said that a few years ago, Barney Silver lowered the sewer manholes or the storm water drains. Supt. Brooks said it must have been storm water drains since we do our own sewer manholes. e) In the spring we talked about re-shingling the garage. We received three written and one verbal quote in the amounts of \$2,075, \$2,475, and \$2,100. One estimate for leaving the shingles was \$1,575. Metal roofing had two estimates at \$2,500 and one for \$2,725. The plan is to do it in-house with 25-year shingles for \$800-\$1,000. Esther asked if that including disposing of the existing shingles, and Supt. Brooks said yes. He added that the work won't show up as an expense but as wages. Rob asked if we had the proper safety gear and Supt. Brooks said yes. The Trustees agreed to do the work in-house.

- 6) Other Business – a) Esther spoke with Town Council Chair Joe Friedman today. On Monday, November 7th the Trustees may meet in executive session with the Council. Prior to that date, the District's attorneys plan to meet with the Town's attorney. The Trustees will be notified as to whether or not they need to attend the November 7th meeting. b) Supt. Brooks pointed out that the Trustees received copies of our most recent DEP inspection. c) Esther said that after reviewing the benchmarking data, she went to Bangor to discuss the option of sending out wastewater to them. She said that Rob's presentation did not include capital outlay. The District would have to purchase capacity at a cost of approximately \$1 million. Whether or not we would be allowed to purchase the capacity would be up to the Bangor City Council, not the plant. We would have to install a pump station with a 12" main that would have to go under the railroad tracks. There also is an issue with the Penobscot East Intersector, which is a sewer pipe that runs behind the hospital that is near capacity and has major inflow/infiltration issues. We would have to replace that to ship our wastewater to Bangor, which could cost several million dollars. The Bangor plant also noted that there was not much grant money for these projects, and that the DEP would not approve this until the Intersector was replaced. Bangor would maintain the pump station for a fee, but Veazie would be responsible for maintaining the collection system. Veazie would also be responsible for fines. Bangor would send us a bill for our share of all upgrades to their plant. Hampden recently received one for \$68,000 when Bangor replaced its heating system. Currently, Veazie residents pay \$100 a year for debt retirement; Esther estimates that shipping the wastewater to Bangor would increase that debt retirement to \$1,000 a year. She also spoke with Tanya Hovell and Clarissa Trasko at the DEP. d) There was some additional discussion on the Crowe properties.
- 7) Adjournment – Rob moved to adjourn, Gary seconded. Vote 3-0, passes at 7:22.

NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 9, 2011 AT 6:30 PM

Minutes approved November 9, 2011, by a vote of 2-0.

Gary Brown, Secretary. 11/9/11