

VEAZIE SEWER DISTRICT**Regular Meeting Minutes****Oct 27, 2014****6:30 P.M.**

Attended by: Trustee Norman Webb, Treasurer Jim Parker, Chairman Rob Tomilson, Superintendent Dana McLaughlin, Office Manager Becky Chase

- 1) Rob called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
- 2) The agenda was reviewed.
- 3) Jim made a motion to accept the Sept 2014 meeting minutes, Norman 2nd, unanimous.
- 4) Ed Januski from 110 Ridgeview Dr was present with questions regarding the Debt Service and the Capital Reserve fees on the sewer bills. Jim explained that the Veazie Sewer District was not eligible to receive federal funding so the district had to borrow a little over \$2,000,000.00 to build the plant so that is where the Debt Service fee comes in. As far as for state funding, when the plant was built, the state only funded 30% and the district had to fund the other 70%. But the district still had to meet the federal and state regulations because it was demanded to build a wastewater facility. Until the loan is paid off in 2022, then that fee will be on the bills to pay off the loan unless the district had to borrow more money for another capital improvement. Everyone who is a customer of the district is assessed the \$41.00 charge per quarter except businesses, which are assessed more. Apartment buildings are assessed \$41.00 per apartment. In the 50s, the district was funded 100% by the assessment to the town and the sewer portion showed on the tax bills. When the treatment plant was constructed, there were votes taken at the district level for the amount of the fee to be billed to customers because it was now the district's responsibility to fund the treatment plant, not the town's responsibility. The district's charter gives the district the ability to set rates, revenue and to collect from the users. All the rates that have been set by the district have been voted on at the district level.
- 5) The warrants were circulated and signed by the board members.
- 6) The delinquent accounts report was reviewed by the board.
- 7) The Office Manager's Report was reviewed. Five liens on Crowe properties had not been discharged. Discharges will be recorded tomorrow. Becky is studying for the Wastewater exam for Nov 19, 2014. She also attended a two day laboratory procedure class last week and took the certified exam.
- 8) Becky will do a spreadsheet on the costs and savings of the MMEHT health insurance plans, PPO 1500 and PPO 1000, and compare to the current district health insurance plan, POS C and email to the board members. We should see the new insurance rates for 2015 by Nov 15, 2014.

- 9) The Treasurer's report was in the board packets.
- 10) Dana presented the Operations Report for September 2014. The employee activity reports were reviewed.
- 11) Dana got two new quotes from Maine Alternative and Dead River on heat pumps. The district is looking into getting one heat pump and then fans vented into the rooms. Dana will contact Maine Alternative and get a better quote.
- 12) MDOT will be resurfacing Rt 2 next spring.
- 13) Dana presented the grade rings that are easier to handle from Ti-Sales. Bangor Wastewater is trying them and suggested that if they work, then possibly three or four towns in the area ordering them in bulk. Dana will purchase a couple and try them also.
- 14) Dana updated the board on the Solar Bee proposal. Dana will get more information and put the district electricity costs into the spreadsheet for more accurate figures.
- 15) Dana did some DO monitoring in the lagoons.
- 16) Dana did testing with the blower speeds and temperatures.
- 17) Dana talked with Barney Silver about fixing the outfall manhole.
- 18) Pine Tree Waste is more expensive than Evergreen in regards to disposal of screenings so we will stay with Evergreen at this time.
- 19) Becky got quotes from several electrical suppliers. A few of the suppliers said that we are getting a really good rate at this time right now. All quotes were more expensive than what we are paying now. Becky will recheck for prices again in March 2015.
- 20) The board received the Workers Comp insurance renewal.
- 21) We need at least ten more sewer customers to complete the MRWA Income Survey to qualify for the funds. Dana will check with Alex in regards to Section 8 housing in that area.
- 22) Wright-Pierce wants to move the manhole by the old Bangor Hydro and put in pvc pipe. The board wants ductile iron pipe because it is less susceptible to damage and ductile iron is what the district already has there.
- 23) The 2014-2015 budget was reviewed by the board. The bond payments, principal and interest, should be in the Amortized Debt expense line item. Becky will correct this.
- 24) The sewer connections at the Crowe properties on School St are not operable and they want to know why they have to pay any sewer fees. Per the district charter, any property that is

within 200 ft of the sewer mains will be charged the quarterly fees. This is due to the fact that it is a "readiness to serve" property.

25) Jim motioned to end the meeting at 9:04 p.m., Norman 2nd, unanimous.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2014 AT 6:30 P.M.

APPROVED:  DATE 12-2-14
Norman Webb, Clerk