

**PORT EWEN WATER & SEWER BOARD MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 16, 2014**

The regular monthly meeting of the Port Ewen Water & Sewer Board was held on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 with the following members in attendance:

Donald Kiernan, Port Ewen Water & Sewer Superintendent  
Ronald Phillips  
Kevin Rentfrow  
Michael Tronolone  
Larry VanVliet

Absent were Commissioner Douglas DeKoskie, Port Ewen Water & Sewer Foreman Eric Balash, and Liaison from the Esopus Town Board Wayne Freer.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM by acting Chairman, Ronald Phillips.

1. MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF JULY 8, 2014 MEETING

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LARRY VAN VLIET AND SECONDED BY MICHAEL TRONOLONE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 2014 MEETING. ALL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

2. BIRCHES - DOH

Superintendent Kiernan advised the board that there is nothing new to report.

3. FOREMAN REPORT

Foreman Balash's report is not included with this month's reports.

4. TANK PAINTING/REPLACEMENT

Superintendent Kiernan reported to the board that all is ready to begin surveying the property where the tank is located.

## 5. METERS

There are now one hundred meters at the water plant; these will replace meters that aren't working. Superintendent Kiernan has a print-out that explains the meters. A "reader" will be obtained when twenty-five meters have been installed. The superintendent will be meeting with a customer who does not want a new meter (this could be due to publicity regarding radio frequency signals in the Glasco area attributed to meters there). Commissioner Larry VanVliet has a concern that other customers will not want a new meter. If necessary, the company will come to a public meeting to answer concerns. The board agreed to have the new meters installed at their own houses. After hydrant flushing and meter reading, the new meters will begin to replace the old.

Commissioner Ronald Phillips asked about comparing an old meter and a new meter with low-flow and high-flow testing. Superintendent Kiernan will do this; a new meter should catch a low-flow that an old one wouldn't.

Commissioner Michael Tronolone inquired about happens when a customer complains about a high water bill. Superintendent Kiernan replied that 99% of the time a leak is found when the department goes out to check at the customer's house.

## 6. HYDRANT FLUSHING SEPT 21 TO SEPT 26

Next week two workers will flush hydrants between 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM.

## 7. RIVERKEEPER

A. OIL – Superintendent Kiernan advised the board that barges in the river are often positioned near the water treatment plant as they wait for a dock to open in Albany. The barges carry heavy oil which, if they ever leaked, would go to the bottom of the river.

B. VISIT - SIGN – Riverkeeper has asked for a sign to indicate that the water treatment plant conducts backwashes.

The board discussed the consequences if an oil spill (of this type of oil) should occur by the water treatment plant and if something could be done now about the situation. Superintendent Kiernan replied that if this type of heavy oil spilled, the plant could not operate.

#### 8. HARRIS -- METER READ INTERFACE

Superintendent Kiernan advised the board that the meter reader's cost is \$1,900. The annual fee is \$425.

#### 9. PROPOSED 2015 BUDGETS

Superintendent Kiernan notified the board that the proposed budgets for 2015 are attached to the monthly reports. The increase is because health insurance benefits are up and retirement benefits are up. There is a proposed ten percent rate increase in the sewer district. Commissioners Ronald Phillips and Larry VanVliet were concerned about people feeling a double crunch if new meters are added to the sewer rate increase.

#### 10. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Superintendent Kiernan reported that no PCBs have been found when the Health Department tests monthly.
- B. Commissioner Tronolone asked if, in case of an emergency, could Port Ewen get water from the City of Kingston. Superintendent Kiernan replied that no longer would this happen with a pipe placed on the "old bridge." The Port Ewen district would have four days of water.
- C. At Lakeshore Villas a new very large water meter has been installed.
- D. A 500-gallon double-walled tank rated for calcium ammonium sulfate, which also includes pumps, timers, and a vinyl storage shed, is going to the North Broadway sub station. The cost of the tank is \$600; \$400 to ship.
- E. Propane bids opened yesterday, September 15, 2014. The bid from Heritage went from \$1.549 to \$1.55 per gallon.
- F. Commissioner VanVliet inquired about resuming smoke testing. Superintendent Kiernan replied that he will see Foreman Balash; testing could be done during the winter, with Canal Street a possible location.

G. Dyno Nobel is still using our water, but there is not much going on there.

11. PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers are not available during this meeting. They are being reviewed by the Town Board.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LARRY VAN VLIET AND SECONDED BY KEVIN RENTFROW TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. ALL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Meschi, Secretary  
Port Ewen Water/Sewer Board