

PORT EWEN WATER AND SEWER BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Port Ewen Water & Sewer Board was held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 with the following members in attendance:

Nicholas Butler, Port Ewen Water & Sewer Superintendent
Michael Dauner, Port Ewen Water & Sewer Foreman
Michael Mulligan
George Post
Michael Tronolone

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM by Superintendent Butler.

1. MINUTES OF AUGUST 10, 2021 MEETING

UPON MOTION OF GEORGE POST, SECONDED BY MIKE MULLIGAN AND ALL PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR, THE AUGUST MINUTES WERE APPROVED 5-0.

2. DUTCHER MOBILE HOME PARK WATER METERS – Foreman Dauner reported that 40 meters had been installed and master meter no longer exists, units are individually monitored. If any bill isn't paid by November, the fee will go onto Dutcher's tax roll. If a leak exists in the waterline, Dutcher would have to fix the leak and the Town wouldn't recoup the expense.
3. TRAINING – Andre & Sean were into the second evening of the 6-month 2A water training course. Superintendent Butler had taken the civil service exam with the results expected back November 2021.
4. TIGHE & BOND - GRANT - DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE -

Project at its infancy stage. Superintendent Butler had asked Foreman Dauner to reach out to Dan Valentine of Tighe & Bond and a meeting took place on August 27, 2021 with regard to the control panel inside of the water plant. A concern of Superintendent Butler that had not been included in the infrastructure report, was the outdated control panel last updated in 1991. The control panel was not being used as designed and was being deemed "beyond a dinosaur" and if a malfunction were to occur, it could be an issue. Superintendent Butler would generate a change order and requested Tighe & Bond to review cost. There was money available from a grant but items would need to be re-prioritize. The paperwork would need to be presented to the Water & Sewer Board and then to the Town Board. Mike Mulligan asked if proposals include the expansions and growth needed (the water tank). Foreman Dauner stated the panel could be upgraded to make documentation available such as tank level and that there were categories existing on the panel that were no longer used. The "brains" of the panel could be upgraded.

Superintendent didn't intend to have the plant fully automated and as a team, conversations would continue. The W&S plant currently had what is absolutely needed to operate but the panel could use an upgrade. Superintendent Butler had located the discs to the PLCs and could be provided to Tighe & Bond to determine how to upgrade the panel. Another meeting would be scheduled when numbers could be provided. Mike Mulligan noted the benefit of antiquated operating systems was that they were less susceptible to malware/tampering.

5. TRAINING – Free 811 Damage Prevention Conference and Expo – Andre and Sean both attended the Conference on September 1, 2021.

Before moving onto the Foreman's report, Superintendent asked how the members wished DOH reports, sewer flow reports, Foreman's report, etc. to be distributed digitally or if hard copies were desired. Updated contact list was created. Agenda and reports would be emailed as done previously, with hardcopies available at the meeting.

6. FOREMAN REPORT – Foreman Dauner informed that 2 damaged hydrants would be repaired (insurance claims had been made). Many valve boxes repaired, flushing and winterizing hydrants was taking place, all hydrants with exception of those below hill have been painted with expectation to complete all at the end of October. Some of the Towns do not flush hydrants and Esopus is in a good position relative to preventative maintenance. Surge valve going into North Broadway pump station to mitigate pipes blowing during high surge. Plan was to budget for 2022 to replace valves that had been removed at some point previously.

Superintendent Butler addressed confined space issue (any area that needs to be accessed into a hole, completely dark, etc.) There are quite a few areas in Town accessed via manholes and sewer pump stations and the Town qualifies for safety training in confined space. Foreman Dauner had looked at equipment that could be utilized.

Foreman Dauner had spoken with the Fire Department which indicated that there are specific incidents require backup from special teams for assistance. He had reached out to the Kingston Chief of confined space rescue team. Lockout tagout system is needed to be utilized more consistently and training and documentation needed to be implemented. Equipment is outdated. Agency in Albany – Capital Technical Rescue and Safety Consultants could provide hands on training using equipment that could be recommended for use in the field. The training quote was \$1750.00 and could include members of the Highway Department. There may be possibility to share cost with the City of Kingston but something should be scheduled for October if training was to take place. Canal Street pump station needed to be cleaned out – has not been done in approximately 15 years. Previous pump out cost \$10k and training to allow Town to handle pump outs could save money in the future.

Upon Motion of George Post, seconded by Mike Mulligan and all present in favor, a motion to budget for training passed 5-0.

Superintendent Butler had asked for input from employees. One concern raised was chlorine levels. Foreman Dauner had sampled various locations and reported back indicating that there were specific locations barely maintain safe levels. System would be resampled after flushing had been completed and results would help determine what choice would be best.

7. PROPANE BID – One bid received with deadline being September 20, 2021 @ 11:00 a.m.
8. WURTS STREET BRIDGE – Renovations to start soon. Kingston Contract Supt. Plattner had asked Supt. Butler to attend meeting on September 15. Company restoring the bridge needs Port Ewen water for approximately 1 ½ years. Superintendent Butler would like to monitor that water usage and issue a bill. There currently as no method to meter that proposed water usage. More information would be provided at the October meeting.
9. Experienced employee retiring January 2022. Superintendent Butler wished to have individual be able to train with Kenny prior to actual retirement date. Would like to hire an individual already licensed as a grade 2A operator. Superintendent would reach out to Chris Farrell for direction. The Board members were in favor training prior to Kenny’s departure (if allowed).

10. PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GEORGE POST, SECONDED BY MICHAEL MULLIGAN TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT. ALL BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

11. ADJOURNMENT

UPON MOTION OF MIKE MULLIGAN, SECONDED BY GEORGE POST AND ALL PRESENT IN FAVOR, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:15 P.M.

Dated: September 29, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Mance, Secretary

Approved: October 12, 2021