

Hart County Water & Sewer Authority

Board of Directors Meeting April 16, 2018

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met on April 16th, 2018 in the Hart County Cooperative Extension Service Building. Vice - Chairman Hugh Holland called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present were: Chairman Wade Carlton; Board Members Patti Brown, Larry Haley and Marvin Justice; Director Pat Goran; Legal Counsel Walter Gordon; Board Secretary/Treasurer Holly McBrayer; The Hartwell Sun Reporter Michael Isom; and Hart County residents Vinh Nguyen, Bobby Vickery and Carolyn Vickery.

Welcome

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Holland motioned to remove items 7A and 7C and approve the amended agenda. Mr. Holland also suggested having a called meeting to establish guidelines for approving new projects primarily for the benefit of poultry operations. Mr. Haley seconded the motion which passed 4 – 0.

Public Comments; remarks by invited guests

Mr. Nguyen requested water service for his poultry operation on Ray Johnson Road. Mr. Holland stated the request would be addressed at the next regular meeting after guidelines had been established.

Approval of March 19th regular meeting minutes

Mr. Haley motioned to approve the March 19th regular meeting minutes. Ms. Brown seconded the motion which passed 4 – 0.

Financial report

Mr. Carlton arrived at this time.

Mr. Goran presented the financial report. Mr. Goran said the SPLOST Available Funds sheet included a notation of the approximately \$300,000 of local matching funds committed if the 2018 CDBG grant is approved, plus his recommendation to spend another \$450,000 in related system loops. He also explained that the recently passed SPLOST 5 ballot should give HCWSA \$3,200,000 over six years, but that only equates to between \$44-45,000 per month. Assuming HCWSA positive future cash flow of \$5-10,000 per month in addition, that would only allow HCWSA to install about ½ mile of 6” pipe per month; or less than 40 miles of 6” pipe over 6 years.

Mr. Holland requested the addition of the service codes and dates to the Work Order Report.

Old Business

Request for water service – Beacon Light Road residents

Mr. Carlton requested a breakdown of commitment letters by phase and percentages based on parcels with homes to be discussed at the next meeting.

2018 Community Development Block Grant application

Mr. Goran recommended using HCWSA funds to complete loops on Rock Springs Road / Walt Wilson Road / B. Bailey Road, Kotal Circle / Deer Run Lane, and Will Bailey Road for operational benefits in connection with the 2018 CDBG grant. Mr. Goran said that some benefits to completing the loops include potential line breaks affecting less customers, booster pump energy cost savings of up to potentially \$20,000 per year, and less “dead end” lines. Mr. Goran provided cost estimates for each of the 3 loops. Mr. Goran stressed the importance of the operational benefits and stated that he planned to include these projects in the construction bid package if the grant was approved.

Discussion of “paybacks” on typical residential projects

Mr. Goran presented the “payback” findings on three residential projects. He noted the majority of revenue on these types of projects was generated by the base fees.

Mr. Carlton remarked that the Bethany project “payback” was comparable to the Mouchet Road poultry example.

Mr. Holland stated that whether SPLOST or HCWSA funds were used was important to his decision making when voting for or against new projects.

Reconsideration of commitment letter \$200 earnest money deposit

Mr. Goran recommended removing the \$200 earnest money requirement with the commitment letter. He cited the length of time between receiving the money and when water would be available to customers, and the minimal amount of people who do not honor their commitment as justification.

Mr. Holland motioned to eliminate the \$200 deposit of earnest money with the commitment letter and to refund any earnest money that HCWSA currently held. Mr. Haley seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Hydrant usage and payment for water withdrawn

Mr. Goran explained the current hydrant meter policy to the Board. He then informed the Board of his discovery of an unauthorized hydrant meter being used on a HCWSA hydrant. The Board discussed options of preventing unauthorized hydrant use.

After much discussion, Mr. Gordon stated that any policy is ineffective if it is not applied to everyone.

Mr. Haley motioned to allow anyone to purchase their own hydrant meter and register it with HCWSA. The motion failed to receive a second and Mr. Haley withdrew his motion.

Mr. Carlton asked Mr. Goran to specify a hydrant meter assembly and look at possibly changing the policy to be discussed at the called meeting.

Mr. Goran stated his intent to purchase a fourth hydrant meter since all three hydrant meters are currently being used.

New Business

None

Director's Comments

None

Members' Comments

Mr. Haley confirmed with Mr. Goran that the faulty fire hydrant on Alderman Lane had been fixed. He also questioned if the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses were now cutting the grass around the out – of – service water tank on Royston Highway.

Mr. Carlton asked Mr. Gordon to provide a waiver for the church to sign.

Upcoming Meetings – May 21st and June 18th

The next two regular Board meetings will be held on Monday, May 21st, 2018 and Monday, June 18th, 2018.

The Board agreed to have a called meeting on Thursday, May 10, 2018.

Adjournment

Mr. Holland motioned to adjourn and Mr. Haley seconded it. The motion passed 5 – 0.

Wade Carlton, Chairman

Holly McBrayer, Secretary

