

Hart County Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Meeting June 16, 2020

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met on June 16th, 2020 in the Hart County Cooperative Extension Service Building. Chairman Wade Carlton called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present were: Board Members Patti Brown via phone, Larry Haley, Bennie Harper and Marvin Justice; Director Pat Goran; Legal Counsel Walter Gordon; Board Secretary/Treasurer Holly McBrayer; Hart County Board of Commissioners' Chairman Joey Dorsey; The Hartwell Sun reporter Grayson Williams; and developer Scott Appling.

Welcome

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Haley motioned to approve the agenda. Mr. Justice seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Public Comments: remarks by invited guests

Mr. Goran informed the Board that Mr. Appling planned to develop a subdivision on Adamstown Road at the intersection of Lou Gurley Road. Mr. Goran stated that Mr. Appling agreed to pay the entire cost of installing an 8" line to the farthest point of the subdivision and to share equally with the Authority the additional cost to extend the line beyond the end of the subdivision to ensure proper fire hydrant placement. Mr. Goran recommended proceeding with this project.

Mr. Haley motioned to proceed with the project contingent on the cost of construction funds be received prior to construction beginning. Mr. Justice seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Approval of March 16th regular meeting minutes

Mr. Haley motioned to approve the March 16th regular meeting minutes. Mr. Harper seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Financial report

Mr. Goran presented the financial report.

Mr. Gordon commended Mr. Goran on his work keeping the gallons purchased percentages very close to the Board's desired goal.

Mr. Dorsey arrived at this time.

Old Business

2018 Community Development Block Grant project

Mr. Goran stated that all main lines had been installed and all service lines would be complete by the end of this week.

Eagle Grove School Road Area project

Mr. Goran informed the Board that construction was scheduled to begin this week.

Discussion of subdivision guidelines

Mr. Goran noted the increase in new subdivision activity in Hart County.

Outstanding requests for water service – poultry operations

No action was taken.

New Business

COVID-19 Response

Mr. Goran explained that in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and after conferring with Mr. Carlton, public access to the office had been limited. Late fees had been waived for March, April, and May. Reconnection fees and lock offs were waived for April and May. Mr. Goran recommended sending out delinquent letters to new June offenders and hand deliver delinquent letters to customers who have made no attempt to contact the office or make a payment in the last few months. Mr. Goran added that the customers were still liable to pay their balance in full although it would be prudent to negotiate short term payment plans in light of the virus and its repercussions. Mr. Goran also suggested returning to normal business operations in July and the Board agreed.

Request for water service – proposed Adamstown Road subdivision

See public comments.

Request for water service – 3685 Elberton Highway

Mr. Dorsey voiced his support for the water request on Elberton Highway.

Director's Comments

Mr. Goran stated that he tentatively planned to be out of town at the time of the July meeting.

Mr. Goran shared a request from a customer for a discounted tap fee. The Board consensus was to treat all customers equally.

Mr. Goran said that due to additional interest on Byrum Cemetery Road and Bailey Place Road and three additional commitment letters received, this small project was extended another 1000'. He also said that the project met the \$7,500 per committed customer and the Director's spending authority guidelines. Mr. Goran said that this small project was now complete.

Mr. Goran informed the Board of the subdivision recently approved by the Hart County Board of Commissioners on Early Drive. He stated that the developer had paid for the cost of running the water line to end of the subdivision and paid for 3 additional taps for the existing homeowners at the end of the road.

Mr. Goran informed the Board of a water request received from a poultry farmer on Still Waters Road which would be an extension to the existing waterline. Mr. Goran stated that he had discussed the standard poultry

farmer minimum commitment letter with the farmer. Mr. Carlton asked for a cost estimate and asked Mr. Goran to follow up with the poultry farmer.

Mr. Goran informed the Board that the Authority now had over 2100 active customers.

Members' Comments

Mr. Haley commended Mr. Goran and Mrs. McBrayer on a job well done handling the COVID-19 response. He also said he has received a complaint about Byrum Cemetery Road.

Upcoming Meetings – Monday, July 20th and Monday, August 17th

The next Board meetings will be held tentatively on July 20th, 2020 and on Monday, August 17th, 2020. The Board agreed that if necessary, to hold the July meeting on Thursday, July 16th, 2020 to allow for Mr. Goran's possible absence.

Adjournment

Mr. Haley motioned to adjourn, and Mr. Justice seconded it. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Wade Carlton, Chairman

Holly McBrayer, Secretary