

Hart County Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors Meeting July 15, 2019

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met on July 15th, 2019 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, Larry Haley, Bennie Harper and Marvin Justice; Director Pat Goran; Legal Counsel Walter Gordon; The Hartwell Sun Reporter Michael Isom; Board Secretary/Treasurer Holly McBrayer; and Hart County residents Vance Foster, Joseph Marino, Vinh Nguyen, and Chad Singleton.

Welcome

Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comments; remarks by invited guests

None

Approval of June 17th regular meeting minutes

Ms. Brown motioned to approve the June 17th regular meeting minutes. Mr. Haley seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Financial report

Mr. Goran presented the financial report. He noted that the water sales were the highest on record to date. Mr. Goran also noted the high negative cash flow for the month of June due to numerous small capital projects that were recently completed using HCWSA funds.

Old Business

2018 Community Development Block Grant project

Mr. Goran stated that Target area #4 (Hanley Road, Park Lane and Reese Lane) installation was underway and expected to be completed in the next two weeks and that Target area #5 (Green Meadows Drive) is the next area scheduled for installation.

GEFA radio-read retrofit and meter replacement project

Mr. Goran informed the Board that the Radio Read Retro-fit project had begun and noted the challenges involved.

Request for Water Service – Mewborn Road, Eagle Grove School Road, Liberty Church Road poultry operations, and residents

Mr. Goran stated that EMI should complete the engineering drawings by the end of August and should have the required permits by the end of September. Mr. Goran asked the Board to determine how many gallons of water and over what time period the poultry farmers' commitment letters should be. Mr. Goran also asked

the Board to consider whether or not to proceed with the project and suggested revisiting this topic at the next meeting.

Request for water service – Whispering Creek Trail

Mr. Goran informed the Board that Mr. Smith, who had originally made the request, asked that this request be tabled to allow him additional time to collect commitment letters.

The Board discussed the definition of a subdivision and what would be a reasonable HCWSA financial contribution toward a project where property is subdivided for a profit. The Board discussed requiring a longer term for residential commitment letters similar to poultry operation commitments.

Mr. Carlton expressed his concerns over spending taxpayer dollars so that an individual can gain monetarily.

After much discussion, the Board agreed to revisit this topic at the next meeting.

New Business

Request for water service – Bethany – Bowersville Road

Mr. Goran provided a cost estimate. He noted the potential to eliminate a dead end line to form a loop which would have some hydraulic benefits to the system in that area as well as having less customers out of water if a line break were to occur.

Mr. Singleton handed out a copy of a map and email correspondence with the County Administrator. Mr. Singleton stated he had sold 4 parcels and owned one 10 acre parcel which has not yet sold for a total of 5.

Mr. Foster stated that he had a parcel across the street from Mr. Singleton's parcels and was also interested in water service.

Mr. Goran stated he will reach out to Arrowood General Contracting for a cost proposal.

After some discussion, the Board agreed to revisit this request at the next meeting.

Request for water service – Ray Johnson Road poultry operation

Mr. Goran provided an updated cost estimate which would require the poultry farmer to commit to 2,475,000 gallons per year for ten years. Mr. Nguyen stated that he would consider whether or not he would commit to that volume.

The Board discussed concerns such as the cost and distance to reach this property. They asked Mr. Goran to research comparable poultry operation usage and will revisit this topic at the next meeting.

Request for water service – Player's Lane

Mr. Goran provided a cost estimate and explained that Players Lane was a private road in a gated community with all underground utilities and discussed the challenges those factors may create. Mr. Goran said there were 8 homes and a clubhouse currently using a community well. Mr. Marino stated that he had 2 verbal commitments. The Board agreed to send out standard residential commitment letters and revisit this request at the next meeting.

Director's Comments

Mr. Goran informed the Board of a water request for a "subdivision" on Bowersville Highway. No action was taken.

Mr. Goran informed the Board of two significant main line leaks on Pineywoods Road and Forest Circle caused by lightning.

Mr. Goran informed the Board of the need to choose a grant writer / administrator and engineering firm for a 2020 CDBG application, which are due April 1st, 2020. The Board agreed to proceed with sending out Requests For Qualification. Mr. Goran asked the Board for target area suggestions for the proposed 2020 CDBG project. Both Rhodes Drive and extending Cokesbury Highway were suggested.

Mr. Goran informed the Board that he would be on vacation from August 7th to August 12th.

Members' Comments

None

Upcoming Meetings – August 19th and September 16th

The next Board meetings will be held on Monday, August 19th, 2019 and Monday, September 16th, 2019.

Adjournment

Mr. Justice motioned to adjourn and Ms. Brown seconded it. The motion passed 5 - 0.

Wade Carlton, Chairman

Holly McBrayer, Secretary