

Hart County Water and Sewer Authority

Board of Directors Meeting November 18, 2019

The Hart County Water and Sewer Authority met on November 18th, 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; Board Secretary/Treasurer Holly McBrayer; The Hartwell Sun Reporter Drew Dotson; Kevin Cape, Trent Cape; and Hart County residents Mike Brown, Chuck Dodd and Jayson Nguyen.

Welcome

Approval of Agenda

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

Public Comments; remarks by invited guests

Mr. Dodd requested water service for a portion of Bowersville Road.

Trent Cape requested water service for a potential subdivision on Reed Creek Highway. He stated the plan was to build 8 houses and would consider contributing to the cost of construction. Mr. Carlton asked Mr. Goran to create a cost estimate and revisit this request at the next meeting.

Mr. Goran cautioned the Board about incurring early costs to the Authority, such as engineering required for GDOT permits, without getting a guarantee from the subdivider that they will make their required financial contribution.

Mr. Brown repeated his request for water service on Byrum Cemetery Road.

Approval of October 21st regular meeting minutes

Mr. Haley motioned to approve the October 21st regular meeting minutes. Mr. Harper seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Financial report

Mr. Goran presented the financial report. He noted the continued increase in customer count.

Old Business

2018 Community Development Block Grant project

Mr. Goran informed the Board that 3 of the 5 target areas were now complete and the contractor was currently working on the 4th target area.

Mr. Haley asked Mr. Goran to follow up with the contractor regarding a residential complaint about a driveway on Walt Wilson Road.

GEFA radio-read retrofit and meter replacement project

Mr. Goran stated that the contractor has completed their work and EMI is helping finalize the paperwork required to close out the GEFA loan.

Mr. Goran discussed the benefits of borrowing the entire \$365,000 dollars in loan available so that the Authority could obtain the maximum principal forgiveness available of \$110,000, noted the ½ percent interest, and said there is no penalty for paying the loan off early. He stated that invoices from EMI that have already been paid could be reimbursed with GEFA funds and new meters and MXUs could be purchased for future use and recommended doing so.

After much discussion, Mr. Carlton motioned to borrow the entire \$365,000 and use those funds to reimburse EMI invoices previously paid for with Authority funds and purchase meters and MXUs for future use. Mr. Justice seconded the motion which passed 5 – 0.

Request for water service – Mewborn Road, Eagle Grove School Road, Liberty Church Road poultry operations, and residents

Mr. Goran informed the Board that the Eagle Grove School Road bids were due on Tuesday, November 26th at noon. Mr. Goran stated that he would email the Board the name of the apparent low bidder. The Board agreed to discuss the project further at the regular December meeting.

Mr. Carlton suggested extending the proposed waterline to Bowman Highway from Mewborn Road.

Request for water service – Whispering Creek Trail

Mr. Goran stated that 7 of the 9 required commitments letters have been received.

Request for water service – Bethany – Bowersville Road

Mr. Goran stated that 4 of the 5 required commitment letters have been received.

Request for water – Uly White Road poultry operations

No action was taken.

Request for water service – Tom Rice Road, Farm Road, Andrew Floyd Road poultry operations, residents

No action was taken.

Request for water service – Redwine Church Road poultry operations

No action was taken.

Request for water service – Byrum Cemetery Road

Mr. Goran presented a cost estimate of \$27,580.50 for a 1600 feet waterline to allow for the desired 1000' fire hydrant spacing. Mr. Goran added that HCWSA had received 3 verbal commitments and suggested proceeding with the project. Mr. Haley suggested not running the entire 1600 feet and running 1200 feet instead.

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

Review and discussion of Authority project prioritization and potential funding

Mr. Carlton asked Mr. Goran to follow up with the County Administrator and schedule a meeting between representatives of HCWSA and the Hart County Board of Commissioners in January to discuss a possible increase in the millage rate, with the goal being to borrow money to speed up the process of installing water lines in the County.

2020 Community Development Block Grant

Mr. Goran stated that some target areas being considered are the Jud Cole Road and Clay Brown Road areas.

New Business

Discussion of potential Reed Creek Highway subdivision

See Public Comments

Director's Comments

None

Members' Comments

Mr. Haley asked Mr. Goran to follow up with the contractor regarding some issues on Airline Store Road and Rock Springs Road.

Mr. Carlton asked Mr. Goran to follow up with the contractor regarding materials left on Still Waters Road.

Upcoming Meetings – Monday, December 16th and January - TBD

The next Board meetings will be held on Monday, December 16th, 2019 and the January meeting to be determined at the December meeting since Martin Luther King, Jr. Day falls on the 3rd Monday.

Adjournment

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

Wade Carlton, Chairman

Holly McBrayer, Secretary