

Gun Lake Area Sewer Authority Board Meeting Minutes June 2018

Call to Order: The June 7th Board meeting was called to order at 6:57 PM by Chairman Glenn Leep.

Roll Call: Township officials present: Glenn Leep of Martin, Roger VanVolkinburg of Wayland, Tom Rook of Orangeville, and Mark Englerth of Yankee Springs. GLASWA Director, Larry Knowles, and Office Manager, Tara Palandri, were also present. Aaron Davenport of Jones & Henry and Gordon Vanlaan of GVL Excavating attended as well.

Review Authority Minutes: Mr. VanVolkinburg motioned to accept the May meeting minutes with Mr. Rook supporting, motion carried 4-0.

Director's Report:

- Laboratory Technician
 - Monthly report was submitted.
 - David Underwood has been hired for our lab operator. He holds a “B” license.
 - Infrastructure Alternatives will work with David until June 15th.
- YST Water
 - DEQ will allow us to delay the Reliability Study 2 years because of no significant changes.
 - Contract between GLASWA and Yankee Springs to Operate the Water System
 - The Water Advisory Board requested that we supply a 5-year contract. We provided them with the proposed contract (same as original 1991 contract with adjusted fees) March 22nd.
 - The Advisory Board recommended that the YST Board accept the proposed contract. YST Board did not accept the recommendation and tabled the issue for further review.
 - The current contract with the Water System expired May 31st.
 - After YST tabled the contract signing at their April 12th, GLASWA also took the time to review the fees to ensure they were fair. It was then determined the current fees did not cover our costs. After investigating, Mr. Knowles determined the rate per meter should be \$68.31 instead of \$40.40. The amended contract was sent to the Township June 1, 2018.
 - Mr. Englerth explained that a YST Board member had issues with five words in the contract. Ultimately, at the June 2, 2018 meeting, the YST Board voted to: change the word “agent” to “contractor” throughout the contract, insert “alongside the township” on page 2, Section III, first sentence after “GLASWA”, and change the term from five years to two years (June 1, 2018-May 31, 2020). The Township Board also would like the fee per meter to be the originally proposed \$40.40 (\$10,665.60 per year).
 - Mr. Leep believes now that we’ve researched and determined a more accurate rate, we cannot ignore the increase because we need to ensure our costs are covered, at a minimum.
 - Mr. Englerth proposed slowly increasing the annual administration fees over time to avoid a \$7,368.24 increase in one year. Mr. Leep believes that given the difference in the past rates and newly proposed rates, the increase needs to happen immediately. Now that the issue has been brought to the Board’s attention, it would be unfair to sewer customers to slowly increase the rates.
 - Mr. VanVolkinburg motioned to propose the Water Contract to the YST Board with the new administration rates, as submitted by Mr. Knowles, for a two-year term (June 1, 2018-May 31, 2020). Mr. Rook supported the motion. Roll call vote: Martin- Yes, Wayland- Yes, Orangeville- Yes, Yankee Springs- No. Yes: 3, No: 1. Motion carried 3-1.
- Miss Dig
 - We performed 100 Miss Digs in May.

- New Technician Hires
 - We have hired Dan Valentine. He will start on June 18th.
- Grinders
 - We believe we determined the annual costs for existing grinders is about \$36,000.00/year.
 - Mr. Knowles asked if the board would like to proceed with a public hearing at Yankee Springs Township to explain the reasoning for the proposed ordinance. The board hopes the hearing will answer questions and clarify any misunderstandings for the public and directed Mr. Knowles to continue and prepare for the hearing.
- Driveway Replacement
 - The driveway for Tom Jager was replaced and we paid our portion of the repairs (\$3,900.00).
- Project
 - We received the bids on May 24th and the prices came in extremely high for a number of reasons. Mr. Davenport has discussed GLASWA's choices from here with Mr. Knowles and believes the best way to proceed is to eliminate some alternates from the project. Mr. Knowles recommended to the Board to eliminate alternates one and two, use knowledge from first bid process to cut costs further, and rebid the amended project to LD Docsa and Davis, the lowest bidders from the first bids. After much discussion, Mr. VanVolkinburg motioned to accept Mr. Knowles' recommendation as presented and proceed to further amend and put the project out for rebid.

New Business: Two sewer permits (Wayland and Yankee Springs) and one water permit.

Financial Statements: May payroll totaled \$18,032.62 and operations expenses (checks #14424-14459) along with electronic payments totaled \$53,508.97. Total May expenses came to \$71,541.59. A motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. VanVolkinburg and supported by Mr. Englerth, the motion carried 4-0.

Discussion: None.

Hear Those Present: Gordon Vanlaan, GVL Excavating, asked the Board to waive the requirement to hook into the sewer for two properties. He cited numerous reasons for his request including: one property would require the expensive cost of boring underneath Patterson Rd. to connect driving the total cost to connect to the sewer to \$18,577 compared to \$5,000.00 for the septic system; tapping a live pressure sewer line is possible, but very difficult; the County and Health Department have no issue with the property not connecting, however the Health Department requires our approval before they can approve it. Mr. Rook stated that the connection requirement is waived for any structure that would have to connect to a pressure line, so Mr. Vanlaan does not need the Board's approval to install a septic system. Mr. Knowles will send Mr. Vanlaan the necessary documents stating GLASWA does not require these two properties to connect to the sewer system.

Adjournment: Mr. VanVolkinburg motioned to adjourn at 8:38 PM, supported by Mr. Rook, passed 4-0.

The next board meeting is scheduled for July 5, 2018 at 7:00 PM.