

SISTER LAKES AREA UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Sister Lakes Area Utilities Authority regular meeting for November 9, 2023.

Chairman Blackmond called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm, members present are Mr. Moore, Mr. Kays, Mr. Laylin. Mr. Billingham arrived at 1:35 pm.

A correction to the October 12, 2023 minutes: Section; City of Dowagiac, Line 2, replace except with accept. A motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 12, 2023 with correction was made by Mr. Moore and supported by Mr. Laylin. Motion carried.

Call for Public Comment: 1:31 pm. No public was in attendance.

The Bills and Claims for October in the amount of \$75,787.41 was presented for payment a motion was made by Mr. Laylin and supported by Mr. Kays. Roll call vote - Ayes- Mr. Blackmond, Mr. Moore, Mr. Kays, Mr. Billingham and Mr. Laylin. No votes – None. Motion carried. \$27,394.05 was transferred to Indian Lake Sewer.

As of October 12, 2023 the balance in the Maintenance account is \$2,460,296.76.

Selge project manager, Scott Riley was present with an update on the repairs of B1 Lift Station. He also provided photos. Selge arrived on October 31, 2023, began the repairs. Dave from Plummers arrived on site November 3, 2023 and began sealing leaks and applying epoxy coating. Selge then made repairs to the forced main. Pumps were then reset and force main reconnected. Bender Electric will be on site November 10, 2023 to begin reconnecting the electrical panel.

CITY OF DOWAGIAC

Mr. Billingham reported that Mr. Tyrakowski, City of Dowagiac Public Works Project Manager has left his position. No replacement as of yet.

MacAllister Rentals-Michigan CAT provided a quote for a new back up By-pass pump (Trash pump) in the amount of \$65,225.39. A motion was made by Mr. Laylin and supported by Mr. Kays to purchase. Roll call vote-Ayes-Mr. Blackmond, Mr. Moore, Mr. Kays, Mr. Billingham and Mr. Laylin. No votes-None. Motion carried.

A quote, provided by MacAllister Rentals-Michigan CAT, for addition piping and tubing for back-up by-pass pump in the amount of \$11,694.07. A motion was made by Mr. Blackmond and supported by Mr. Laylin. Roll call vote-ayes-Mr. Blackmond, Mr. Moore, Mr. Kays, Mr. Billingham and Mr. Laylin. No votes-None. Motion carried.

Mr. Billingham presented the rental rates for by-pass pumps for MacAllister Rentals-Michigan CAT. Daily - \$375.00. Weekly - \$1,125.00. Four (4) week - \$3,375.00.

The manhole monitor for the NW manhole at Magician Lake has arrived and will be installed. An update will be provided at the next scheduled meeting.

***Mr. Laylin leaves the meeting at 2:03 pm.**

OLD-UNFINISHED

SEMCO claim – A search for new law firm is needed. Several firms were discussed.

BS&A billing installation update; the software has been installed and is running.

Invoice Cloud data extractions will begin soon. Plan on going live January 10, 2024.

Mr. Blackmond reported that Atty Seeber feels there is a conflict of interest working for Sister Lakes Utilities and Silver Creek Twp. A search for a new law firm will be needed to go forward with the contract for Indian lake billing. A discussion about making contract retro-active may be line.

Detention/retention pond; A revised proposal from Hall Builders was received in the amount of \$14,403.00. A discussion about the design and construction followed. The start of this project would be Spring of 2024. A motion was made by Mr. Kays and supported by Mr. Billingham to accept quote as given. Roll call vote-Ayes-Mr. Blackmond, Mr. Moore, Mr. Kays, and Mr. Billingham. No votes-None. Motion carried.

INDIAN LAKE SEWER

The lighting at Lift station 4 is still being investigated for a realistic solution.

On November 8, AEP replaced on pole at C8 causing a short power outage.

A customer on Lagoon Dr., called office with a concern about standing water in the backyard, thinking it may be a leak in the sewer pipes. City of Dowagiac investigated, all sewer pipes are located in the front of that property.

NEW BUSINESS

New sewer connection request from Jenny Finley at Magician Dr. can not be made due to being too far away from existing sewer line.

John Withrow Excavating asked about a sewer permit for work they will be doing at 50702 Garret Rd. A pipe needs replaces between the house and the old septic tank. A permit will be needed by the plumbing inspector John Dobberteen. Also, the county health dept. will need to inspect that the septic tank has been properly taken care of.

The next meeting will be December 14, at 1:30 pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore and supported by Mr. Billingham to adjourn the meeting at 2:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Mrs. Kaye Smith
Recording Secretary**