

639 Lisbon Road

Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252

Tel. (207) 353-3020

Arthur McLean, Chairman, Marie Hale & Allen Ward Commissioners

Charles Harrison, General Manager

Water Commission Minutes for October 10, 2023

Members Present: Arthur McLean, Marie Hale, Allen Ward

Staff Present: Charles Harrison, Shellie Reynolds

Audience: Don Fellows

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

# Meeting called to order by Mr. McLean at 5:02pm

# Roll Call

1. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

# None

1. WARRANTS

# Warrant #38023 (Sep 20, 2023)

# Warrant #39023 (Sep 27, 2023)

# Warrant #40023 (Oct 4, 2023)

# Warrant #41023 (Oct 11, 2023)

1. OLD BUSINESS
   1. Minutes
      1. 09/12/2023-Meeting Minutes
         1. Ms. Hale made a motion to accept minutes, Mr. Ward 2nd motion, followed by a 3/0 vote to accept.

# Unresolved Issues (tabled)

* + 1. 26 Summer Street
    2. Memorial for Bill Bauer
       1. The rock has been placed; now we just need to find the time to prepare it and place the plaque.
       2. Mr. Ward noted that Chris Huston moved the rock for us.

# Any Other Old Business

# 125 Project Update

# Water should be done by Friday, October 13.

* + - * 1. There is a tie in on Thursday on Hewey and Davis Streets
        2. The following week, we will go to the site and go through all of the materials that were not used; EJP will be on site. We will return all material we do not need.
        3. Through the construction process, we have had to open/close valves where they were not open/closed so we will be reversing these back to the way they should be; we will be flushing in the process.
        4. We have some hydrant extensions to complete; we will be working on that next week.
    1. Corrosion Control
       1. We have backed off the dosage of poly/orthophosphate. We started high (2+ leaving plant) to make sure it made it to all customers on the system. We are now at 1+ leaving the plant and we will lower it one more time.
       2. We have set the system up to adjust dosages automatically at each plant/well to get the right amount in case another plant/well is offline.
    2. Terms and Conditions (Awaiting Approval)
       1. Checked the website Friday and it has not been approved yet.
       2. The new credit card machine has arrived (it is not set up yet). Mr. Harrison will be checking with the PUC to see if the Terms and Conditions need to state that you can pay at our office via credit card.
    3. Awaiting cost for replacement of PRV vault piping
       1. Aceto very busy but hopefully we can still get it in this year.
    4. Ann Street Well Cleaning
       1. Mr. Harrison called the company since it was on books for mid-October; they (Weston and Sampson) said they would need to push until November but Mr. Harrison stated that did not work for us. He will see about getting here next week.
    5. The Town has moved to Bangor Payroll; Ms. Reynolds asked if the commissioners had received their emails.
       1. Mr. Ward had but has not done anything with it.
       2. Mr. McLean has not received it.
          1. Ms. Reynolds will reach out to make sure he gets an email.

1. NEW BUSINESS

# General Manager’s Report

1. Bauer PLC Failure
   1. We got an error message that there was no memory, as if the computer lost its brain. The software to tell the computer “here is your brain” is very expensive. It is a yearly contract and Mr. Harrison does not feel it is beneficial.
   2. The board approved of getting a band-aid for it, which was the cheap way to go, but the band-aid failed once because the PLCs are old.
   3. Mr. Harrison provided a quote ($6900) from Finch to replace the PLC; the PLC is how the plant operates. If we do not have it, someone will need to turn the well on by hand.
   4. Engineering services for the project will be $14,200.
   5. Ms. Hale made a motion not to exceed $14,500 to provide improvements to the Bauer PLC, Mr. Ward 2nd the motion, followed by a 3/0 vote to approve.
2. Radio Study
   1. The radio study that was discussed last week is set to happen on Thursday and Friday.
   2. They will come out, set up radios, get communications from all our sites. The major issue is getting Bauer to talk again because the path it goes right now is Bauer to the Lisbon Falls tank and there are some major interruptions in elevation, trees and buildings. We are going to point the antennae towards the Lisbon tank.
   3. This cost is in the funds approved last month.
3. VFD’s (Variable Frequency Drive) Arrival
   1. The VFD’s have arrived.
   2. These allow the pumps to speed up and slow down so we can be more efficient running the equipment.
4. 3M Class Action Lawsuit (PFOS)
   1. Mr. Harrison submitted claim for us to be part of the class action lawsuit.
      1. We were accepted into the lawsuit; now we provide our PFOS records; if we meet the criteria, we will get money.

# Business Manager’s Report

* + 1. None

# Commissioner Communication/Requests

* + 1. Ms. Hale –
       1. Village Street paved at Gartley Street; valve boxes need to be raised
          1. Mr. Harrison will take care of
    2. Mr. Ward – None
    3. Mr. McLean –
       1. MXU installations and are we notifying customers
          1. Mr. Harrison let the board know we have created a door hanger so that if a customer is not home when we install, we can leave the hanger to let them know.
       2. Mr. McLean thinks we can get seals to use on the MXU to prevent tampering.
          1. Ms. Reynolds does not feel it is necessary, as it has only been a few locations that have removed them.
          2. Mr. Harrison will look into it.
          3. Mr. Fellows asked how many we have left to install.

Mr. Harrison said we would find out and let them know.

# Customer Communication

* + 1. Complaint Log
       1. October 3 and 5, 2023 – 34 Summer St – Our water tank overflowed and traveled down to enter customer’s garage

1. Customer was upset that Don took the time to get the water shut off instead of calling him first.
2. Don went to tank to make sure it was shut off then went back to the customer’s house.
3. Customer stated that everything in my garage was ruined due to getting wet.
   1. Don offered to help squeegee water from the floor (standing water but not very high) and to buy the pressure treated wood that was on the floor (the department could use it).
   2. The riding mower had some water on the tires but not high. It is a new garage and Mr. Harrison thinks that is why the customer was upset.
4. On October 5, Mr. Harrison went to customer’s house with Don.
   1. The customer recorded Don (Mr. Harrison thinks just audio but not positive). After a few minutes, he recorded Mr. Harrison as well, saying that what he wanted was for us to get an engineer and a carpenter over there to tell him his garage walls are ok.
   2. Mr. Harrison did not see any of the damage and did tell the customer there was a board meeting that coming Tuesday and would he come to the meeting and express what you need to express.
   3. The customer asked Mr. Harrison to leave his property so he plainly on record “I am leaving your property upon your request”.
      1. Mr. Harrison did ask him to look at our Terms & Conditions as it does state we are not responsible for that damage.
5. Mr. Harrison stated that at some point we will place some riprap to help move water in another direction.
   * + 1. October 2, 2023 – 16 Douglas St. – Service line leak.
          1. On a service call, Don found a service line leak. Customer contacted Ace to repair the service line.
       2. July 11 and October 2, 2023 – 139 Main St. – Low pressure.
          1. We replaced the meter and found a good bit of what appeared to be construction debris in her service line. Mcgee took apart some of her fixtures, but some needed a special hook to remove the screen. Customer is speaking with Mcgee to have the issue resolved.
       3. September 14, 2023 – 5 Pohle St. – Sulfur smell
          1. When Don arrived customer thought it was an iron issue. From his tap, we detected 0.00 iron. Customer was informed to call back if the water quality was in question again.
          2. Usually a sulfur smell comes from your hot water heater so there is not anything we can do about that.

# Customer Comments

* + - 1. None

# Any Other New Business

* + - 1. Blue Ox – Easement to attorney
         1. The Water Department has had many conversations with Blue Ox in trying to work with them.
         2. Today (October 10) we received the easement deed; there are some points in the Easement Deed that need to change.
         3. Mr. Harrison will reach out to our lawyer for input on the easement deed.
         4. The easement deed would make everything from the valve at the street, the 6” fire line and everything else on their private property is theirs.
         5. Mr. Harrison wants to make sure the board is okay with the easement deed.
         6. Board in agreement to send the easement to the lawyer.

1. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

# Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 5:00pm at Lisbon Water Department.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION
   * + 1. None
2. ADJOURNMENT
   1. Ms. Hale made a motion to adjourn at 6:51pm, Mr. Ward 2nd the motion, followed by a 3/0 vote in favor.