# **Gull Lake Sewer & Water Authority**

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# MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2008 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Authority Board Meeting

1:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL: Chairman Bither called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Commissioners present were Jeff Bither, Jackie Light, Jim Stoneburner and Roger Turner at 1:04. None absent. Also present were Director Rich Pierson, Office Manager Anne Richmond, and Engineer Tom Wheat.

**REVIEW AND SET THE AGENDA:** Stoneburner made the motion to accept the agenda as presented with the addition of Springbrook Billing to New Business and Lien Process to Old Business. Motion was seconded by Light. **Motion carried; all ayes.** 

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 25, 2008 REGULAR BOARD MEETING: A motion was made by Light and seconded by Stoneburner to accept the regular meeting minutes of September 25 as presented. Motion carried; all ayes.

HEAR THOSE PRESENT (Non-Agenda Items): None present.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

To: Noall Garage over sewer

Mr. and Mrs. Noall were contacted because the third bay of their existing garage at 1879 Idlewild is constructed directly over the sewer pipeline in violation of the easement. This condition has existed since 1986. Pierson to make recommendation on the best course of action to address this situation at the next Board Meeting.

To: Bennett Water – 31<sup>st</sup> Street

Mr. and Mrs. Bennett were advised that Richland Township has decided not to expand the 31<sup>st</sup> Street Water Connection Program aggressively. This methodology will not be paying for individual well testing and therefore, we are not able to refund the \$51 Mr. and Mrs. Bennett expended for nitrate testing.

To: Gilmore Ingress egress easement In 1999 +/-, a new house and new driveway were constructed at 8906 West Gull Lake

Drive and the Authority utilizes the drive to access the pump station on the next property. Ms. Gilmore has requested that the existing ingress/egress easement that has been in place since 1982 be released and replaced with a new easement specifically describing the asphalt drive as it exists. Upon execution of the new ingress/egress document, GLSWA will proceed to have the County of Kalamazoo officially assign their rights to the Authority (as the Authority is now owner of the system), and the

Authority will subsequently release the ingress/egress description from the 1982 document. GLSWA will also request the Barry County Board of Public Works to assign their rights to the Authority as we did for the Lawrence easements.

To: Brian St. John 200 foot connection rule

Mr. St. John was informed that the distance from his home at 7966 N. 30<sup>th</sup> Street to the existing available public sewer (considered to be the edge of the right-of-way closest to the structure in question) is within 200 feet. His residence would be required to connect at such time as the existing septic system fails (as determined by the Health Department).

To: Sandra Kiger Invoice Adjustment
Ms. Kiger was informed that an error was discovered in the recording of her sewer connection contract amount for Frona's Deli. \$7,202 was incorrectly used as the beginning balance instead of \$7,800. Ms. Kiger was provided a corrected payment schedule and informed that an additional \$251.15 was owed in interest. She has not yet responded to our letter. Pierson noted she has yet to execute an easement across her property that services her Deli next door.

To: Jackie Light 31<sup>st</sup> Street Water
Rich Pierson completed an analysis of the possible "expansion" of the 31<sup>st</sup> Street
Water Connection Program (Pfizer project) and discussed his findings with Richland
Township. As indicated in Old Business (31<sup>st</sup> Street Water Connection Extension),
Richland Township has decided not to expand the Water Connection Program
aggressively.

To: VanderVeen Excavating Restoration at Macywood
The parking lot of 8653 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street has been repaired, but the embankment has
never been restored with top dirt and grass. A letter was written to VanderVeen
Excavating informing them that this needed to be restored so that we can submit the
"completion" certificate to the soil erosion office and release our VanderVeen
payment (\$2,259) for the lift station work. There has been no response.

To: Ron Pillars, AVB \$400 Asphalt Restoration GLSWA contributed \$400 towards the asphalt replacement work done for the sewer connection at 2013 Idlewild.

# PROJECT UPDATE:

30<sup>th</sup> Street North Pay Estimate

Engineer Wheat reviewed Change Order 1: Change the manhole castings to a bigger, heavier type without the pick hole. This increases the project cost by \$100 per casting x 11 manholes = \$1,100.

Turner made the motion to approve Change Order 1 and payment to Balkema (Payment Request #1) in the amount of \$86,620.50. Motion was seconded by Light. **Motion carried; all ayes.** 

Engineer Wheat reported that Balkema may be asking for a change of condition because the soil borings were done previous to the water level increasing and this likely has caused Balkema additional expense.

Gilmore Farms Phase 1B Sewer Pipe Installed

Allen Edwin will be adding an additional 40 lots that will be connecting to the Parker Hannifin sewer. This project is in the ground and completed pending final cleaning and videotaping.

Generator at LS #13 Lawrence's Update

Good work was done on the generator installation at LS #13. Everything is complete except for the gas work and startup.

Generator at LS #1 Update

Good work was done on the generator installation at LS #1. Everything is complete except for the concrete to the road which will be finished next year.

Timmer Grinder Pump Update

This difficult connection was completed on 9/10/08. Currently, the installation cost is \$641 over the estimate and may go to \$1,000 over the estimate. *Pierson to meet with her to finalize the work and negotiate final cost allocation between GLSWA and Timmer.* 

Osborn Grinder Pump Update

Mr. Osborn requested improvements to his sewer connection. Connection via gravity sewer failed (4" pipe boring attempt under M-43) resulting in the installation of the "fall back" connection using a grinder pump. *Pierson to meet with Osborn and negotiate final cost allocation between GLSWA and Osborn.* 

Tanglewood Advisory Petition

Pierson will redo the petition incorporating clarifications suggested by a homeowner and also asking the homeowners if non-mandatory connection would gain their support of the sewer. The revised petition will be reviewed with Jackie Light and Jim Stoneburner before it is sent out.

Tamarron AVB Assessment Contract

Pierson to prepare AVB Assessment Contract and will likely make recommendation to the Authority that GLSWA fund \$87,000 to put the pump station in the optimum location if there is no participation in the sewer project from Cotter's Ridge residents. There will be more discussion on this at the next Board Meeting.

MSU Update

Pierson to discuss the 40<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer Project with David Kreager, President, Gull Lake Board of Education.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

DEQ PPP Contract - Update

A proposed renewal agreement for the continued discharging of purge water at the former PPP site in Richland Township now owned by the DEQ was sent to Mr. Mark Ducharme. He has not yet responded.

Assistant Maintenance Personnel Update

Pierson reviewed the budgetary impact of hiring a new employee and adjusting parttime staffing levels in consideration of budget and workload. The hiring date for the new employee is now projected to be early January. The Board indicated support for proceeding as indicated.

Charleston Proposal Concepts Overview *Pierson to prepare this for the next Board Meeting.* 

Financial Projections Draft Capital Program

In process.

Drinking Water – Gull Lake Concepts Overview

Cost is estimated to be \$12,000 - \$14,000 for a water connection. *Pierson to review options with the Board at a future meeting.* 

Mid-year Review Employee Update

Informal reviews were held with each of the employees. *Pierson to present information on employee incentive distribution for Board endorsement at the next meeting.* 

Springbrook Billing Update

The Board reviewed the rate increase and supported billing \$65/qtr on the bills sent out 9/30/08.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

31<sup>st</sup> Street water connection extension Richland Township "wait and see" Per occurrence basis: As homeowners experience problems and apply to connect (G Avenue only), the Township would consider "waiving" the Connection Fee as an incentive to the homeowner, subject to a nitrate determination by the Health Department at that time. Individual well testing will not be paid for.

Parchment Testing for sulfide

Barry Bowman completed sulfide testing and determined that it is unlikely we have caused downstream damage. *Pierson to make recommendation on cost to fix a specified length of pipe subject to a hold harmless agreement for the future.* 

Truck Purchase

In Process

Different options are being evaluated including how to lower the fuel cost currently spent on Duane's truck.

Water Connection Fee

In Process

Red Flag/Social Security Privacy

In Process

November 1, 2008 is the deadline. GLSWA is studying the implications, but will need additional time to put a plan in place.

Augusta Amendment

Waiting for the City of Kalamazoo

This is currently with the Kalamazoo City Manager for signature.

Web Site

Some Improvements Made

Making improvements.

Liens

Under Review

Pierson informed the Board that delinquent payments received from the County may have to be refunded if the State takes over the property (if it fails to be purchased at auction). One option may be to create a special assessment lien to protect GLSWA's interest.

**Building Project** 

Update

Concepts should be available in November and proposed options by December.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW/ PAY BILLS

A motion was made by Stoneburner and seconded by Turner to file the financial reports as presented, approve the standard bills paid, and pay the Prein & Newhof bills as presented. **Motion carried; all ayes.** 

#### CLOSING COMMENTS

ADJOURN MEETING TO NOVEMBER 20, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.: Chairman Bither adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

Submitted for approval

Jacqueline Light - Secretary