**PLVD Bond Hearing 02-11-2020**

Commissioner Scott opened the Bond Hearing Meeting at 6:00 pm

Commissioner Scott read Article 2

**Article 2.** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $500,000 Engineering, Architectural Work and Installation of a New Well and Pump House, and to authorize the issuance of not more than $500,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon as well as apply for, obtain and accept Federal, State Grants or other forms of aid and assistance which may be available for said project. All principal and interest payments for this debt will be paid by Water Customers only. Commissioners Recommend. 2/3 ballot vote required.

Commissioner Scott opened the floor for discussion.

A question was asked as to what will be the cutoff date for when they will be considered a water customer vs a well customer. Commissioner Scott shared that when they are off the commiunity water system they will no longer be water customers. Again what is the date? The date we apply for the loan. Commissioner Scott said he wanted to share the numbers. A 20-year bond and a 30-year bond. Commissioner Scott shared that 30-year bond would not benefit us with the higher interest. We went with a number of 80 water customers and that would be $46.88 a month (45,000 a year divided by 80 divided by 12 months) for that bond. That would be if we borrowed the $500,000. We are looking to receive some loan forgiveness and grants. At the 20 year mark the monthly payment would be $26.82. If the bond gets voted on and passed and water customer gets a well 6 months into the bond payments will they still pay. Jamie Dow, Treasurer said that she believes that the billing will be to whomever is on the system when the bond is taken out and when the first payment is due. Commissioner Pawlowski shared that those who were on the water system at the time of the drilling of the emergency well were the ones who received a bill for the well. Commissioner Scott shared that there is a slim chance that we will be applying for all the money at one time, this bond gives us the permission to go up to the $500,000. The Engineering Firm that we are working with (Wright and Pierce) has a good reputation for applying and receiving grants. Jamie Dow, Treasurer said -- When the payments are due the amount will be divided by how many customers are on the water system in that current year. Whoever is on the system when they are applying for the grant goes toward the numbers and the income they are counting for the grant application (this is where the survey that was taken is being used and it is being updated frequently). Whoever is currently on the water system in that given year when the bond payment is due is the customer who will be billed for it. It will be divided by the current customers on the water system. If a bond is taken out in 2020, payment will not begin until 2021. If you put in a well in 2020, you will not be part of that payment. One resident asked if we could be in a better standing as far as the survey goes with less people on the water system. Commissioner Scott shared that could be a possibility as the survey is based on income and then added that we are looking at a lot of different grants. There is a person on the engineering firm who is an expert at searching and applying for grants and he is taking point on this project. We will not be applying for the full amount at one time, this is a living document that will not be finished in the near future. A resident shared a concern that with so many residents getting wells there is a concern for the residents who are on the water and what they will be paying. Commissioner Pawlowski shared that no matter how many residents are left on the water, that there will be a water system. DES will be attending the annual meeting. If the bond does not pass PLVD will be subject to heavy fines. Commissioner Vasquez shared that the fine would be $4000 per violation and we have 7 violations plus legal fees. One resident asked if the residents would be notified when grants are obtained. Commissioner Scott shared we are in the beginning stages of the project and we will be sharing as the plan moves forward. Commissioner Scott shared that with the board being volunteers at some point we will be able to log our volunteer hours at $25.00 an hour in-kind for our contribution. We can come up with as much as $20,000.00. One resident asked if there is a chance of the charges for water to go down. Commissioner Scott shared that it is our plan to get good water for 24 hours a day and adjust the rates. In the past there has not been long-term plans and today that it is our goal to put a long-term plan in place. Commissioner Scott shared that it has been a while since we have had to turn off the Peninsula Well and we are hoping to locate a leak on the Franklin Pierce well that can be repaired and allow us to keep that well running. Lately we have had to turn the Franklin Pierce well off one day a week to allow it to recover. Please let us know if you see any water that could be a leak so we can check it out. A resident asked a question about the wording of the bond. They were wondering if the water lines that will need to be replaced was included in the bond. After some discussion Commissioner Scott shared that they can amend Articles. Treasurer Dow shared that after the bond hearing meeting that the Commissioners can amend Articles as needed prior to the posting date. Commissioner Scott shared that this bond will be paid by water customers only, however, if the bond fails all of us will be affected because your home value will plummet. The water meter surcharge will be complete the end of 2020. Commissioner Scott shared that because we are working with DES and following their recommendations, they are not fining us at this point. However, if the bond does not pass, right after our annual meeting they can begin issuing fines. Treasurer Dow shared that if the bond does not pass and we are issued the fines that every tax payer in the District, not just water users, will have to pay for them as well as the legal fees. This would be issued by the state. Because there are now more well owners than water customers the Commissioners chose the wording on the bond that the payments would be made by water customers. A resident shared the importance for the Village District to support the Bond to avoid fines, and keep our home values up. Remember we will all pay fines if this does not pass.

Commissioner Scott adjourned the meeting at 6:55pm.

Marcia Pawlowski, Clerk

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Pillsbury Lake Village District