

**THE MONROE TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the  
Monroe Township Water/Sewer District  
October 14, 2020

Chairman Scott Vagedes called the meeting to order at 6:04pm and lead the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Other members in attendance included Dave Eilerman, Rob Voisard and newly appointed member, Dan Drexler. Administrator Marilyn Fennell was present. Absent were Jared Eales and Trustee Greg Seifring.

Minutes from September 9, 2020 were reviewed and Mr. Eilerman **moved to approve the minutes from September 9, 2020 as presented**. Mr. Voisard seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0, Mr. Drexler abstained. Mrs. Fennell also noted the date on the printed agenda should be corrected from October 13 to the 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Comments from Public:** There were no guests present.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Voisard had prepared Resolution 2020-13 to pay monthly expenses of \$8,830.40 for September. Income was \$14,496. Included were the usual monthly expenses and the billing for the website, which has increased \$30 for the year. The assessment for 6520 Curtwood was received from Miami County Auditor. Mr. Eilerman **moved to approve Resolution 2020-13 to pay September expenses**. Mr. Drexler seconded the motion. Mr. Vagedes called for the vote, motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Vagedes brought up the 2021 Budget. Discussion should be completed by the November meeting. Mr. Vagedes reminded Mrs. Fennell that she needed to provide the basic information on the Board for Mr. Drexler.

Mr. Voisard said if we increase the rates 8% to cover the \$14,000 for the remote-read meters, we will still be short. Mr. Vagedes said he spoke to Doug Evans at Miami County regarding these meters. He said if we did not wish to have the meters installed, then the invoice from the County would remain at the \$4,000 a month. If the Board approves the meters to be installed and they will reduce the fee accordingly. They could be paid off in a year. It would be easier for the County as there would be no more meter reading, it would just be a drive-by to read the meters. Mr. Vagedes said he needed a more definite figure and Mr. Evans was to have contacted Mr. Vagedes by the meeting tonight and Mr. Vagedes had not received any call. Mr. Drexler asked if we were committed to these meters. Mr. Vagedes said he had met with Jeff Shields, license operator for the County earlier regarding this matter.

Mr. Eilerman said we are paying \$4,000 a month, \$48,000 a year, so they could cover the meter cost with what we are paying. Mr. Voisard said he understood that once the meters are installed, the cost could drop down \$500 a month and if they continue to charge the District \$4,000 a year, then they are paid off in 2 years and the bill should be reduced monthly after

that. Mr. Eilerman asked Mr. Vagedes if he was being billed for his remote-read meter at his home in Deer Cliff which is also billed by the County. Mr. Vagedes said he did not think he was. Mr. Vagedes said there is too much uncertainty and he will await an explanation from Miami County.

Mr. Voisard said if we raise the water/sewer rates 8%, there will not be an audit fee next year, and add in the \$14,000 fee, the District will be \$800 in the hole. The City is raising the Water fee by 4%. Mr. Vagedes said the Board should await word from the County on the fee reduction.

Mr. Vagedes said the District is only getting an increase in the water rate from Tipp City and he felt we should only increase the Water fee to the property owners. He said that the District has approximately \$42,000 in reserve; there is a no-interest \$40,000 loan from Monroe Twp that was used for start-up funds and that needs to be repaid. The District was looking to make a \$2,000 payment towards that loan. So we need at least 4% to meet these obligations.

Mr. Vagedes asked Mr. Voisard to have the 2020 Expenses and Income, estimating December, for the next meeting. There was a brief discussion regarding the next meeting date due to Veterans Day. It was decided to move the meeting date to November 18.

Mr. Voisard added that Mr. Rennick had sent the Financial Statement for the fiscal year ending December 2019 and there were copies for all.

Mr. Drexler asked how the rates compare to other communities. Mr. Vagedes showed him the chart of localities that Oakwood has assembled showing the rates (based on 22,500 gallons per a quarter) for water and sewer. Our rate is not as high as Miami County but less than Deer Cliff.

Mr. Voisard added we had received a check from OTARMA for \$210.76. This was the distribution of funds for being a member. Mr. Eilerman added Trustee Cox is a member of the Board.

Mr. Eilerman asked if we had received information from the Auditor's office to see if we were receiving monies from all properties. Mr. Voisard said he would check on that. Mr. Vagedes thought they were up to date.

**Old Business:** A) We received more information on an OTARMA MORE Grant. Mr. Eilerman said there is a \$500 grant. Mr. Eilerman had spoken to Trustee Cox and he said the Trustees were looking at some barricades. The Board thought that might be a good purchase. We are looking for something that relates to safety. Mr. Eilerman will complete the application once he receives the information from Trustee Cox.

B) The Tax Exempt form has been received for future purchases.

C) A response has been received from attorneys, Albers & Albers regarding the Myers/Borchers property development question. That bill was \$1,020 for their services. The development has

been tabled at the Miami County level. A possible 64 units were planned to be built. A request had been made to the District for water/sewer service. Mr. Vagedes said such a request could be denied by the Board and any costs could be billed for legal expenses involved with this. Trustee Seifring received the bill from Albers and Albers for the information requested, \$1,020 and had forwarded it to Mr. Voisard.

Mr. Vagedes said 805 Todd Ct., the Posey property, was the property that had not hooked up to sanitary sewer. The property has been sold and there is someone installing sewer and water service. Per Miami County, a permit had been acquired for this work.

**New Business:** A review of different properties was discussed. The billing from Miami County was reviewed for high usage. Several have pools, lawns appear irrigated but several appear to possibly have some sort of leak. One party had a leak in their pool and the resident said they had it repaired. Mr. Vagedes spoke to resident and made them aware of their high usage. Mr. Drexler thought they should be aware of their high billings. Mr. Vagedes said he advised two parties to call Miami Co.

Mr. Eilerman thanked Mr. Vagedes for taking that time to speak to those parties. He also had looked at the billings for the condos and apartments. Their usage is considerably lower than the properties discussed by Mr. Vagedes. Several properties appear to be on the inactive billings.

**Board Comments:**

Mrs. Fennell advised she would be absent from the December meeting. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 6:00 PM** due to the next meeting date falling on Veterans Day. There were no further comments from the Board. Mr. **Eilerman moved to adjourn the meeting** and Mr. Voisard seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

---

President

---

Secretary