

# **TOWN OF CHESTERTON SERVICE UTILITY BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 20, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Board Members L. Brandt A. Michel. S. McCord and J. Schnadenberg, Supt. D. Ryan, Clerk-Treasurer C. Udvare, P.A. Liaison K. Nevers, Engineer M. O'Dell, Town Council Liaison S. Darnell, Attorney C. Parkinson and Secretary D. Schoenfelt. Absent were Board member J. Raffin and Town Manger D. Cincowski.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

S. McCord moved to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2021 meeting, seconded by A. Michel, approved by unanimous voice vote.

S. Michel moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting November 17, 2021, seconded by J. Schnadenberg, approved by unanimous voice vote.

S. Michel moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting November 29, 2021, seconded by J. Schnadenberg, approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**

S. McCord moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by J. Schnadenberg, approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

1. Mark Hoffman addressed the Board about the town taking over the operation of the lift station for the new Aldi. He said they would bring it up to the town's standard before that occurred.
2. L. Brandt said there was no advantage for the town to take over the lift station.
3. S. McCord asked about the other private properties that also use the lift station.
4. M. Hoffman said they have easement agreements with those private properties.
5. C. Parkinson said right now you have private lines running into a private lift station. The upgrade would only be to the lift station.
6. M. O'Dell said when Kmart put in the lift station they refused to build it to the town's standards.
7. J. Schnadenberg was concerned about private lines that use the lift station and being responsible for those lines in the future.

7. L. Brandt said M. Hoffman should discuss the issue with D. Ryan and if he couldn't convince him the town should take over the lift station then it was very doubtful the Board would be convinced. All board members in attendance were in agreement with this decision.

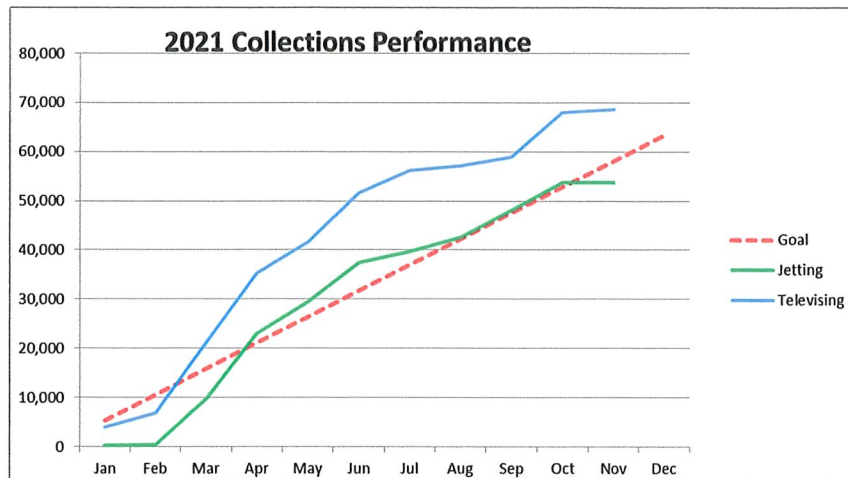
## **Superintendent's Report**

### **Administration**

1. Update, Odor Control at Porter Cove liftstation: The chemical has been received and is scheduled to be applied during the week of 12/13.
2. I have filled one of the three vacancies in collections. Sam Duley left us in July and will be returning to join our team on 1/4/22. I'm happy to have Sam returning.
3. Kmart/Aldi liftstation: Mark Hoffman, or his rep, is on the agenda for this meeting to speak to the Utility Board regarding their interest in accepting the Aldi lift station, once all improvements are completed that would bring it up to our proper specs. He has received bids for improvements but has not started construction. He also has never been told that we would accept the liftstation or the private sewer mains in the served area.
4. We hauled 46 yards of sludge to the farm with the Utility truck.
5. Rate Study: Larry presented the final results of the completed rate study to the Council on 12/13. They set the proposed rates for a public hearing on 12/28 and it is anticipated that they will then vote on the rate increase that same evening.
6. We will be ready to present the 2022 Budgets at the January Board meeting, since we have to wait for the results of the Council's vote on the proposed rate increase on 12/28. I will be able to meet with Larry prior to the January board meeting to review the budgets in detail.
7. Indian Oak Inn Lawsuit: The Trial is set to start with Jury selection on 12/13 and the actual trial to start 12/14. The attorneys met with our four witnesses, Larry, Dave, Jay, Mark on 12/8 & 12/9 to prepare us.

### **Collections**

1. There were no pump failures this month.
2. We televised 758 feet and jetted 0 feet.
3. We completed 277 locates and 16 inspections.
4. We performed some in-house training on fiber locates and general locates.
5. We trained with NITCO on how to perform "Forced Tone" locates.
6. The crews have been working on cleaning the wet wells for the final time this year. Those on the west side of Town have been completed and we are trying to finish those on the east side.



## Treatment

1. Streamlined Mercury Minimization/Variance Program
  - a. Continuing to meet the annual requirements.
2. Maintenance Tasks
  - a. The new auto sampler for effluent samples was installed and is working properly.
  - b. The broken primary sludge valve and check valve were replaced and the new primary sludge meter was installed by Woodruff.
  - c. Power bobbles have required Operators to monitor and reset equipment, sometimes after normal hours.
  - d. The digester hot water boiler was re-tubed.
  - e. The digester hot water circulating pumps and associated valves and piping were replaced due to age, condition and efficiency.
  - f. The plant alarms system failed and was repaired with the replacement of the phone modem.
  - g. One of our acid pumps used in the phosphorous removal process is being evaluated at the manufacturer due to failure.
3. Pre-Treatment/Lab
  - a. Efforts are ongoing to monitor industry effluents and commercial grease traps.

**Engineer's Report** – None

**Town of Porter Report** – None

## BOARD REPORT

Chesterton – 54%    Porter – 41%    Indian Boundary – 56%

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. S. McCord moved to approve Resolution 2021-02-U, seconded by J. Schnadenberg, approved by unanimous voice vote.
2. S. McCord moved to approve the 2021 write-offs, seconded by J. Schnadenberg, approved by unanimous voice vote.

**COMMENTS**

1. S. McCord, A. Michel and L. Brandt wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.
2. J. Schnadenberg thanked L. Brandt for speaking at the Town Council meeting about the Rate Study.

**ADJOURNMENT**

S. McCord moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., seconded by J. Schnadenberg approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Lawrence Brandt Chairman

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Deb Schoenfelt Secretary