

# **TOWN OF CHESTERTON SERVICE UTILITY BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 20, 2022**

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, J. Schnadenberg and J. Raffin, Supt. D. Ryan, Engineer M. O'Dell, Asst. Engineer M. Gavaleck, Clerk-Treasurer C. Udvare, Town Council Liaison S. Darnell, P.A. Liaison K. Nevers, Town Manger D. Cincowski, Attorney C. Parkinson, Secretary D. Schoenfelt.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

S. McCord moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2022 meeting, seconded by A. Michel, approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**

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

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – None**

### **Superintendent's Report**

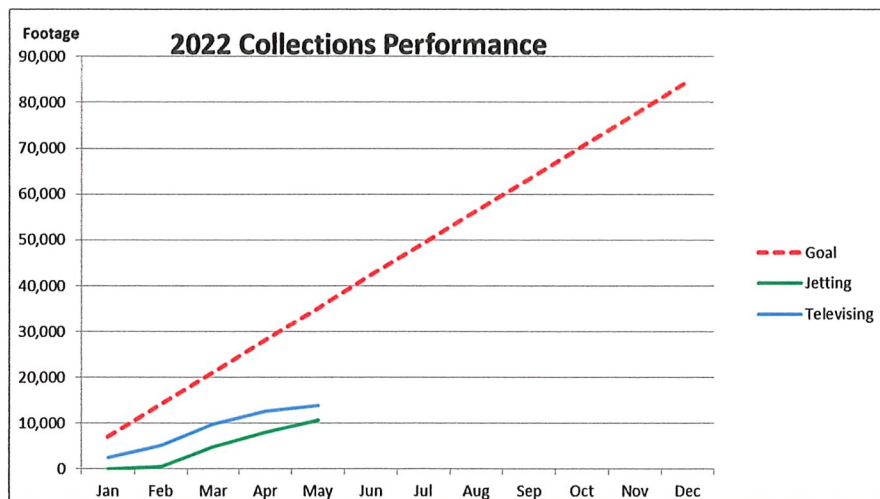
#### **Administration**

1. As you are aware, on 5/4/22 we found a sinkhole in our yard over the 48" sewer. Long story short, it was excavated down to and cleaned out that afternoon by Woodruff, allowing the sewer to flow into the plant overnight, with the actual repair being completed the following day. No loss of service ever occurred. We continue to experience an inflow of silt and sand from that break, and must closely monitor this as an effort to minimize any negative effects on our plant. We also have a sinkhole over the south end of the repair that we are monitoring closely. We are hoping it is only settling.
2. On 5/5 we met with potential developers of the Brassie. They allegedly have a contract on it and are proposing a residential development that is now down to just over 400 homes.
3. I have two vacancies in collections. The market must be changing as I am actually starting to schedule some interviews.
4. I have also posted the Lab Tech position that will be vacated by Deb's retirement on 8/1/22. Interest seems to be high for this position with over 60 resumes received.
5. We had a contractor complete our annual crane & hoist inspections.
6. One of our 4 iPad's has failed and will need to be replaced for Collections. Approx. cost = \$800.
7. Kmart/Aldi liftstation: I have not heard any further requests or comments.

8. Imhoff Tank Update: We continue to monitor daily. We pumped the tank out on 5/26. I have received two quotes for the Design and Engineering of a sewer system to replace the tank. Those quotes came in at \$94,800 and \$27,000. We'll discuss further.
9. IBCD Update: Larry and I met with Chuck Parkinson, and Ted Sommer via phone, on 5/2 to review the rate evaluation performed by Karl Cender, President/CEO of Cender|Dalton Municipal Advisors in Merrillville. Chuck sent our response to them and we have recently received notice from IBCD that they wish to put further actions on hold until they explore the cost for proceeding with those actions.
10. We hauled 248 yards of biosolids to the farm.

## Collections

1. There were no pump failures this month.
2. We televised 1,115 feet and jetted 2,690 feet.
3. We completed 485 locates and 9 inspections. This may be the most locates ever in a month. I know it is the most in the last 7 years. It has put a strain on us for getting other tasks done, such as jetting and televising. Frontier's fiber optic project is contributing to the high number.
4. The crew has started cleaning the bi-monthly manholes.
5. A couple of the guys have been training on the backhoe, locates and liftstations.
6. We assisted GAI on the installation of elevated pump bases at the Porter Cove liftstation. They believe this may be the solution to our rash of broken pump shafts over the last year. Crane/Barnes Pumps stated to them that the specs have changed for pump base clearance for proper suction and we are hopeful this fix is the final solution.



## Treatment

1. Streamlined Mercury Minimization/Variance Program
  - a. Continuing to meet the annual requirements.
2. Maintenance Tasks

- a. The Centrifuge's recent and multiple failures of the electronic power supply units is hopefully remedied. The manufacturer, Alfa Laval, redesigned the circuitry with a new power supply module and some fusing. Hoping it lasts!
- b. The check valves in the Grit System are failing and new ones have been received and will be installed shortly.
- c. We had to replace the RAS Pump VFD cooling fan due to failure.
- d. We have completed the cleaning and inspection of all six Primary Clarifiers and all equipment is in good working order.
- e. Draft Tube Mixer #1 seized up and we were able to free it up. We replaced the belts on both mixers.
- f. The Digester waste gas flair Gas Meter is malfunctioning and will be removed and inspected. We are hoping a good cleaning will be the fix.

3. Pre-Treatment/Lab

- a. Efforts are ongoing to monitor industry effluents and commercial grease traps.

**Engineer's Report**

M. O'Dell reported on unit 4 at Duneland Cove.

**Town of Porter Report – None**

**BOARD REPORT**

Chesterton – 61%    Porter – 56%    Indian Boundary – 75%

**OLD BUSINESS – None**

**NEW BUSINESS – None**

**COMMENTS**

1. L Brandt wished everyone a Happy Juneteenth.

**ADJOURNMENT**

S. McCord moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:11p.m., seconded by A. Michel, approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Lawrence Brandt

Chairman

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Deb Schoenfelt

Secretary