



Hill Water Works – Commissioners Meeting

Meeting Minutes

* APPROVED *

August 13th, 2024

Regularly Scheduled Meeting – A Regularly Commissioner's meeting was Postponed due to illness.

Board Members Present - Stephen Thomson and Charles Estes. Absent was Anthony Cartier – Excused absence

Public Attendance - Joann Irving, Frank Marsh, Joseph Guerriero, Chief of Police, David Thomson, Shaun Bresnahan and Marshall Bennet.

Digital audio recorder was started at 6:30 p.m. The audio recording FAILED – No audio was captured. Stephen Thomson declared the meeting open at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Previous Minutes – The board reviewed July Meeting Minutes. Stephen made a motion to accept minutes as presented. Charlie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Charles Estes made a motion to table Water Commission business due to the absence of Anthony Cartier. Motion was seconded by Stephen Thomson. Motion passed unanimously. Charlie made a motion to schedule a special meeting to possibly include a Non-Public session related to an issue that has arisen about the previous billing agent. The Motion was seconded by Stephen Thomson. Motion passed unanimously.

Stephen declared the meeting closed and declared the remainder of time a NON-Meeting offering to hear any public comments. Joann Irving wanted to address the Commissioner's restriction of recreational use of water as of August 9th, claiming she believed it was personally motivated to aggravate Mark Labonte and the Fire Department. She also alleged again that Charles Estes overstepped his authority, being the one that posted the restriction. Stephen informed Joann that it was the commissioner's decision. That it wasn't just Charlie. All 3 Commissioners agreed to the water restriction as a result of issues at the pump house and explained that an electrical fault error at the pump house is restricting the Water System to the use of only one pump.

Charlie presented emails and messages between Pump Systems and Hill Water Works identifying the intermittent ground fault and discussions about an action plan to troubleshoot the system. Shaun Bresnahan arrived Late. Charlie asked Shaun if he wanted him to review the materials he had just shared with the others in his absence. He declined.

With the water restriction issue seemingly resolved – Stephen asked if there was anything else. Marshall Bennet wanted to address the meter reading being performed on a Tuesday amongst other things. He asked why Charlie was walking around his driveway taking picture. Charlie advised that he attempted to reach the "Touchpad" on Marshall's residence to perform a meter reading however for the second time in the past several months Marshall had packed trash and debris in the alleyway making the touchpad inaccessible. Marshall suggested that Charlie is wrong in expecting easy access to the touchpad and that the meter reader should gain access by way of going around his garage, down the embankment into his lower yard/field, around the trees and bushes and back up the yard to reach the touchpad from the back side of his house. This of course will not be accessible in the winter. The touch pad is located approx. 10-12 feet from his front of Marshall's house directly at his driveway. It is approx. 200 feet by way of Marshall's description around the garage. Charlie provided photographs of Marshall's recent attempts to restrict access to his property, including trash

and debris in previous photos and a no trespassing sign declaring "No Trespassing - Hill Water Works - Especialy [sic] Charlie Estes." **It was at this point that Shaun Bresnahan got up and walked out.** Shaun could be heard talking in the hallway - no doubt mouthing his disapproval but not saying anything directly to the people in the room.

Marshall's attempts to restrict easy access to the touchpad followed his request for a Smart Reader (Radio transmitter) to be installed on his residence but he disapproved of being responsible for the cost of installation. His attempts to make the touchpad inaccessible seem suspicious are a violation of the terms of the Water Works policy. Marshall claimed he had several issues he wanted to address but abandoned any further discussion by also walking out mouthing something inaudible as he left.

The Chairman declared the time for public comment closed.

The Non-Meeting concluded at approx. 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles Estes
Superintendent of the Works