# **NEENAH-MENASHA SEWERAGE COMMISSION**

# Public Hearing & Regular Meeting Tuesday September 28, 2021

Meeting was called to order by Commission President Youngquist at 8:00 a.m.

**Present:** Commissioners Forrest Bates, Steve Coburn, Kevin Hietpas, Greg Weyenberg,

Corey Gordon, Raymond Zielinski, Dale Youngquist; Manager Paul Much;

Accountant Roger Voigt.

Also Present: Randall Much (MCO); Chad Olsen (McMahon), Kyle Collett (Sonoco).

## Public Hearing to Receive Comments on Proposed 2022 NMSC Budget

Motion made and seconded by Commissioners Weyenberg/Bates to open the Public Hearing to received comments on the Proposed 2022 NMSC Budget.

No questions or comments on the proposed budget were received; motion made and seconded by Commissioners Bates/Zielinski to close the Public Hearing and return into Regular Open Session. Public Hearing closed at 8:03 am.

#### **Public Forum**

No one in attendance for the public forum.

#### **Minutes**

August 24, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes: Motion made and seconded by Commissioners Zielinski/Bates to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2021 Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Correspondence

There was no correspondence discussed.

#### **Old Business**

There was no old business discussed.

To accommodate those in attendance, President Youngquist proceeded to Agenda item 7.G. — Update on Contract Renewal for the Wastewater Service Agreement between Sonoco/U.S. Paper Mills and the NMSC. Kyle Collett reported Sonoco is looking at potential capital investments to achieve further BOD reductions; Kyle also indicated he would be the contact regarding the contract renewal negotiation; he is also interested in seeing what the potential phosphorus allocation could be for their facility. President Youngquist reported on a meeting held with the DNR local representative to request a time extension for the phosphorus removal project; it was pointed out the NMSC received a 5-year compliance schedule and most facilities

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receive a 9-year compliance schedule. The DNR representative will look at obtaining an additional 2-4 year extension for our compliance schedule. Manager Much reported on the concern we have with the current chlorine generation unit and its ability to run an additional 2-4 years; we may need to look at purchasing bulk chlorine if the unit fails.

The Commission returned to the Agenda as published.

#### **New Business**

Operations, Engineering, Planning

McMahon Project Updates:

Facility Re-Rating Study – Chad Olsen reported he has no new information regarding the rerating.

Phosphorus Removal/UV Disinfection Project. Chad reported we will wait to receive the written notice from the DNR concerning the phosphorus removal project extension before proceeding further on the project.

Land Swap with Menasha. Greg Weyenberg reported on a meeting held with Menasha representatives to discuss the land swap; he felt they had a good discussion. Greg further discussed the issues – playground equipment, bathroom facility, berm. At this time it is felt it is not feasible to pursue the land swap. President Youngquist asked if anyone else has further input; additional discussion pursued. President Youngquist will contact Mayor Merkes regarding the NMSC not pursuing the land swap at this time; it was requested to keep this item on the Meeting Agenda for one more month.

Plant Boiler Digester Replacement. Chad Olsen reported the natural gas boilers are running and holding temperature; the methane gas boilers will be completed and startup will be scheduled. Pay request #2 has been received from August Winter & Sons, Inc. for work performed on the installation of the boilers in the amount of \$434,032.35. After discussion, motion made and seconded by Commissioners Bates/Coburn to approve for payment pay request #2 to August Winter & Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$434,032.35. Motion carried unanimously. Chad reported Pay Request #3 has also been received; it will be presented at the October meeting for payment approval.

WPDES Permit Application Assistance. Chad Olsen reported work on this is progressing.

Phosphorus Rate Study. Chad Olsen reported work is currently delayed until written notice from DNR is received for the phosphorus project extension.

McMahon Invoices. Commissioners discussed McMahon invoice #923795 phase 06 and invoice #923795 phase 08 in the amounts of \$350.00 and \$161.50. Motion made and seconded by Commissioners Coburn/Bates to approve payment of invoice #923795 phase 06 and #923795 phase 08 in the amounts of \$350.00 and \$161.50. Motion carried unanimously.

Request for New Connection Point in Town of Neenah S.D. #2. Steve Coburn discussed the request that was made and approved previously in 2011; he is not able to find documentation as

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to why they decided not to proceed with the Connection Point back in 2011, the Sanitary District would again like to pursue having a Connection Point at Lift Station 7. Randall Much discussed what the Contract-Ordinance says regarding Connection Points and the requirements for adding a new Connection Point.

Operating Report. Manager Much reported the increased influent phosphorus levels reported last month has now returned to normal levels. Equipment & Grounds Report – Commissioners reviewed the written report prepared by Rob Franck; Commissioners were instructed to contact Rob if they have further questions. After discussion, motion by Commissioners Zielinski/Bates to accept the operations report. Motion carried unanimously.

### Budget, Finance, Personnel

Financial Statements. Accountant Voigt reported the August financial statements are reporting an income in monthly operations. Interest rates on investments have not changed. Accountant Voigt further reported MCO generated about \$2,500 in additional revenue for the Commission. After discussion, motion made and seconded by Commissioners Zielinski/Bates to approve the Accountant's Report for August 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Update on future potential financing. President Youngquist reported any further action will be delayed until we receive the written extension on the phosphorus removal project.

Motion made and seconded by Commissioners Coburn/Bates to approve for payment MCO invoices #27485 and #27531 in the amounts of \$130,144.08 and \$374.27 with payment to be made after October 1, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made and seconded by Commissioners Coburn/Zielinski to approve Operating and Payroll Vouchers #138936 through #138977 in the amount of \$198,845.72 for the month of August 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

2022 Proposed NMSC Budget. President Youngquist questioned if there were any questions or discussion regarding the 2022 Proposed NMSC Budget. Hearing none, motion made and seconded by Commissioners Bates/Coburn to approve the Proposed 2022 NMSC Budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made and seconded by Commissioners Coburn/Bates to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 19.85(1)(e) to discuss strategy concerning contract renewal with the Contracted Industrial User and for bargaining reasons which require a closed session to discuss such strategy to best serve the public interest. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote; meeting convened into Closed Session at 8:55 a.m.

Motion made and seconded by Commissioners Coburn/Bates to adjourn the closed session and reconvene into Regular open session. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote; meeting returned to open session at 9:20 a.m.

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<u>Adjournment</u>

Motion made and seconded by Commissioners Bates/Coburn to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

President

Secretary