

Leino Park Water District (LPWD) Annual Meeting - June 20, 2015

- **1. Call to Order** on June 20, 2015 at 10:05 am
 - Board members: Sue Miller (SM), Dave Crumbley (DC), Bob Brown (BB), Bob Marien (BM), Don Williams (DW), and Derek Knerr (DK).
 - Other members present: 14 Guests present: 0

2. Introductions and Announcements:

- SM welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. There were no other announcements.
- The Board members introduced themselves (to make it official).
- **3. Review and Approve Minutes -** Minutes from our last annual meeting were handed out as attendees arrived. The meeting started a bit late to give everyone time to review them. SM asked for a motion. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of our 06/14/14 annual meeting as distributed. Motion was seconded and passed.

4. Election of Officers:

- Open positions are: Chairperson (1 year term), Treasurer (1 year term), Clerk-Moderator (1 year term), and Water Commissioner (3 year term currently held by Bob Brown). SM asked for volunteers for any of the Board positions. No response.
- A motion was made and seconded to renew terms of those members whose terms are expiring. The motion passed unanimously.
- SM noted that this Board has been together for several years and would like some 'new blood'. Please attend our regular meetings and help us out.

5. Reports:

A. Treasurer Report (Finance/Budget):

- **Budget Presentation** DC read the 2015 Income and Expenditures Report, the 2015 Bridge Fund Report, and the 2015 Estimated Budget Report line by line. After a few questions and some discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to accept all reports as corrected (by discussion).
- **Billing** There was discussion about what gets billed as 'water' (bills sent out by LPWD in January and July) and the "Special Assessments" charge on their January Real Estate tax bill from the Town, which includes \$175 for system maintenance and \$200 toward the bridge fund (\$375 total). There was a suggestion to make it optional to be billed for water once a year instead of twice a year. DC explained that a few years ago it was decided to bill twice a year to help those that had trouble paying a single large payment. He added that the Town bills quarterly, which helps with cash flow. If anyone wants to avoid making the second payment, they can 'double up' on a payment.

B. Water Commissioner Report:

- Maintenance of lines and meters DC reported that in response to the Town's request to have our main meter calibrated, we did, even though we had it done three years ago. DC described the calibration process, which is really verifying the meter's readings at different flow rates against a 'calibrated' reference meter. The good news is that there has been no loss of accuracy over the last three years. DC also reported that there was one report of a meter freezing over the winter but it did not result in any damage to the meter. There is no bad news.
- Water Quality All testing of our water indicates that it is safe and within acceptable Department of Environmental Protection (Massachusetts DEP) and Environmental Protection Agency (United States EPA) levels. We recently added testing of iron and manganese.

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C. Maintenance Report:

- **Bridge** BB reports that since last year only 1 repair of a soft spot on the bridge has been needed.
- Roads Jamie has been spreading graded base on the back roads and has half of it done. His sweeper has a mechanical problem that is getting repaired. Once it is working, the sand will be swept off the roads. Speed bumps will be put down once the roads are swept.

D. Bridge Report:

- **Replacement Options** In response to a question, DK noted that we are still looking at a wooden structure as a replacement at an expected cost of around \$650 thousand.
- Replacement Funding SM reported that we are kind of 'burnt out' as far as the application process is going but still working with the engineering firm to complete the USDA loan application. It is a slow process and SM asked if anyone wanted to help. Elizabeth volunteered her services after Labor Day (as she is busy until then). Thank you Elizabeth. There were questions about looking elsewhere for funding, i.e. grant writers or other lenders. DK explained how we were working with a grant writer but other projects would have had much higher priority than our bridge so it was unlikely that we would get a grant. Other lenders typically extend borrowing for only 20 years, while the USDA loan is for 40 years. In response to a question about how long our existing bridge will last, DK guessed at 5 years, but noted the Town Fire Department will not use it, so it is in our best interest to replace our bridge before we are forced into it.

E. Communication Report:

- Website Visit <u>www.LeinoPark.org</u> or Email us at <u>LPWD@LeinoPark.org</u>.
- DK noted that while the website is kept up-to-date, he could do a better job keeping the bulletin board up-to-date.

6. Old Business:

• The second annual LPWD cookout will be held for family and extended family on August 9th (rain or shine). LPWD will provide a porta potty, clam chowder, burgers, hot dogs, rolls, condiments and watermelon. Attendees are asked to bring lawn chairs, whatever they wish to drink, and a salad, side dish, or desert to share. Invitations will go out soon. RSVP so we can plan accordingly.

7. New Business:

- DC reported that Bill Hibbs has passed the test and now holds a Water Systems Operator-In-Training license. Bill is now our back-up operator. Congratulations Bill.
- SM reported that the Wyman Lake Association annual meeting will be held on Tuesday July 14th, 7:00 pm at the American Legion in Westminster.
- SM also reported that there was a brush fire along Rte 2 in Westminster yesterday. Please be careful with your backyard fires as the fire danger level is high.
- As mentioned earlier, speed bumps will be put down after Jamie's machine is fixed and the sand is swept off the roads.
- DC reported that he received a phone call from the Westminster Chief of Police, asking if he is still associated with the Lake Association. Apparently Skip Bourque (from Leino Park) paid for several 'No Wake' buoys. These will be installed on the lake in the next few weeks. DK noted that he had heard that the Lake Association is reluctant to enforce a 'No Wake Zone' because by definition it is 150 feet from any shore (which is pretty much the entire lake).
- **8. Adjournment** A motion to adjourn was made at 10:46 am. All in favor.

Respectively submitted,
Derek Knerr - Clerk/Moderator