

Nashville Utility Service Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 15, 2023

Commission members present: Members: President Bob Willsey, Vice-President Pam Gould, Secretary Nancy Crocker. Commission Members absent: Member Alyn Brown and Member Dan Klaker. Also in attendance: Water/Sewer Operator Robin Willey, Chief Administrative Officer Phyllis Carr, Municipal Operations Consultant Dax Norton, and ms Consultants Representative Nathan Delisle.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1) CALL TO ORDER

President Willsey called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm and called the roll.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Secretary Crocker moved to approve meeting minutes for: 3/9/2022, 4/15/2022, 7/13/2022, 8/17/2022, 9/14/2022, 10/26/2022, 11/16/2022. President Willsey seconded the motion. Motion approved 2-1.

3) ADJUSTMENT REQUESTS

Secretary Crocker moved to approve the adjustment requests. Vice-President Gould seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Adjustment Appeal from Audience

Brad Baughman made an appeal to his adjustment denial. His cabin had a severe water leak. When he called for someone to come out on 12/30, he was told everyone had left for the weekend but was offered for the on-call person to be contacted. Mr. Baughman advised that was not necessary. However, no one came out until 1/4/2023 resulting in a \$2,300 water bill. President Willsey suggested tabling for a month to do a data read and investigate further.

Krista Spain made an appeal to her adjustment denial. She had a pipe break resulting in a \$300 water bill. President Willsey suggested that it was an issue with the landlord and tenant. After a review, Ms. Spain did receive a sewer adjustment and a water adjustment that was approved earlier. The adjustment will be reflected in the next bill.

MOC Norton expressed concern that giving an adjustment to Mr. Baughman as this would go against the state statues that were placed in the new ordinance since the leak was in the crawl space. Vice-President Gould suggested that there be an exception since the town did not respond quickly. Discussion.

4) MONTHLY REPORTS

A. Budget/Revenue Management Report – Dax Norton

MOC Norton will provide an explanation as to why payroll was so high in January but fell in February. Budget discussion.

B. Sanitary Sewer Rehab Project Update

Nathan Delisle stated that the contract with Eco-Solutions to perform camera and cleaning services had been signed. Estimated start date will be 4/3 but they will mobilize on 3/20. No customer service will be affected. Discussion ensued. Nathan suggested giving adequate public notice that the project was going to take place.

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President Willsey stated that a meeting should be set up with SRF to discuss funding for the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation project. MOC Norton will let President Willsey know when they need to visit SRF. Secretary Crocker stated that the USB and NMU need rate ordinances that have planned incremental increases of rates, instead of raising rates all at once for sewer and water. She would like this placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

MOC Norton discussed the idea of submitting a water project application to SRF to begin the process to get the project on the SRF Project Priority List. MOC Norton stated that this would not obligate the USB/NMU to debt. Secretary Crocker moved to submit the SRF Application for the \$16M water project. President Willsey seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Discussion about looking into equitable rate structures.

5) NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss Changes to the Sewer Usage Ordinance (Adding Industrial Pretreatment Language)

MOC Norton stated that testing has been conducted and the treatment plant is starting to fail due to BOD. On 3/2/2023 an IDEM Emergency Response Team was called to the treatment plant due to the fact that it was no longer treating/cleaning the water properly. This was determined to be the result of Hard Truth Hills increasing distilling production and releasing large amount of distilling waste into the Nashville system. MOC Norton stated that IDEM sent a violation letter to Hard Truth. The letter will require an industrial treatment permit by Hard Truth Hills. Nathan Delisle stated that the letter and requirement was sent because the plant failure met criteria in the Indiana code to trigger the letter and requirement. Hard Truth has changed their process and the plant is coming back to normal.

MOC Norton and Nathan Delisle stated that during a meeting with Hard Truth, it was requested that a sample be taken at the Hard Truth manhole and sent to a lab. The sample was sent on Monday, 3/13/2023 with results on Tuesday 3/14/2023. The results came back with high levels of BOD and TSS that the plant can't support. MOC Norton states that the town needs to have a fee per pound of solids for wastewater that has high levels of BOD and TSS.

Nathan Delisle suggested that the town develop a pretreatment program. He stated that there are two types: delegated and non-delegated. Nashville needs a non-delegated program.

MOC Norton stated that the current sewer use ordinance needs an update to reflect pretreatment rules. He stated that IDEM will be using our local language to set the rules and regulations for the permit that Hard Truth must follow. MOC Norton stated that the town must make sure the ordinance is as strong as it can be. MOC Norton asks members to set up a special meeting to discuss the amendments to the sewer use ordinance before any public hearing. USB members seem to prefer an ordinance that prohibits exceeding BOD and TSS rather than an ordinance that charges a surcharge if the limits are surpassed.

Vice-President Gould commented that in order to prevent this problem in the future, the town needs to look into the parameters of industrial zoning. Secretary Crocker stated that she will discuss Planning and Zoning.

B. AWAA Conference

The board discusses the AWWA Conference. Secretary Crocker makes a motion to approve Robin and Phyllis to attend the AWWA conference and have the option of getting a hotel room. President Willsey seconded the motion. Motion Carried 3-0.

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The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.



President Pam Gould



Date