

**UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 15, 2013**

Mayor Margo G. Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Council members James R. Gatto, Linda Kuiper, Mabel Mumford-Pautz and Mauritz Stetson, Robert Sipes, Utilities Manager, W. S. Ingersoll, Town Manager, Jennifer Mulligan, Stenographer, and guests.

Mayor Bailey asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Utilities Commission meeting minutes of June 17, 2013. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to approve the minutes as submitted, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mayor Bailey stated that cash on hand and in banks was \$852,072.26.

Mayor Bailey asked for a motion to pay bills. **Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to pay the bills as submitted, was seconded by Mr. Stetson and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Sipes stated that work began on Well #9 the previous week and the geologist has done remarkably in selection of materials for the rehab. He said that the well-driller was also happy with the materials and there were extraordinary results. He said that draw-down testing would begin in the morning to see how much influence this is having on adjacent wells on the same aquifer and on shallow aquifers. Mr. Sipes stated that Well #9 should be back online by Friday.

Mr. Sipes stated that PH probes and PH meters were replaced at the Wastewater Plant at the cost of approximately \$4,000.00.

Mr. Sipes stated that Water Street was developing a sink hole between High Street and Cannon Street. He said that excavation will begin tomorrow to find the problem and make repairs. The main would also be cleaned out to camera the condition of the rest of the block. Mr. Sipes stated that laterals would be separated and there would be new laterals run for each property owner. He said that the road would be closed for a portion of the day, although they would try to keep a lane open.

Mr. Sipes stated that there was an ongoing graffiti problem at the water plant and on Horsey Lane. There was video surveillance and a police report was filed. He said that the well driller's equipment and the Town fence was spray painted.

Mr. Sipes stated that if any resident had a water or sewer problem they should call the Town first to lend assistance. He said that calls should be made to 410-708-4603.

Mr. Sipes stated that the Hospital started up the oil recover/remediation system as oil was moving toward the shallow well field.

Mr. Stetson asked if there was any response from restaurants regarding grease traps. Mr. Sipes stated that Procolino's was looking into a grease trap at the end of August. He said he went to the Imperial on three (3) different occasions to discuss the matter and has not been called back. Mr. Sipes stated that if there were issues or concerns concerning the grease traps to contact him directly.


Ms. Kuiper stated that \$47,550.66 was paid to the Comptroller for the Bay Fee, and asked if it was correct that \$16,000.00 was given back to the Town for chemicals. Mr. Sipes stated that was received periodically. He said that originally the Bay Fee was supposed to fund upgrades to nutrient removal systems, noting that the program has expanded and not much of those resources seem to be coming back to the towns.

Mr. Sipes stated that Chestertown's footprint as far as nutrient loading on the Chester River is probably the same as it was in 1800. He said that the Chestertown BNR/ENR plant is as capable as any plant in the State of Maryland. Mr. Sipes stated that if the Town wanted to drop to .2 milligrams per liter of nitrogen, or another 90%, the cost for that would be at least the \$200,000.00 per year the Town was paying into the Bay Fee Fund.

Mayor Bailey stated that the Bay Fee Fund problems should be discussed with the MML. Mr. Stetson stated that he heard at the Convention that this issue was going to be addressed through MML.

There being no further business, Mrs. Mumford-Pautz moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m., was seconded by Mr. Gatto and carried unanimously.

Submitted by:


Jennifer Mulligan
Stenographer

Approved by:

Margo G. Bailey
Mayor