



**Cogswell Springs Water Works
Water Commission
Tuesday January 18, 2022
Henniker Community Center**

Members Present: Jerry Gilbert, Chairman; Bill Hall, Commissioner; Jeff Connor, Commissioner;

Members Excused: Ryan Bumford, Chief Operator

Guests: Josh McCutcheon

Recording Secretary: Kelly McCutcheon

Meeting called to Order at 4:04pm

Review Minutes:

**Commissioner Hall moved to approve the December 14, 2021 minutes as amended.
Commissioner Connor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.**

Chief Operators Report:

- State Requirements
 - Monthly Bacteria Test was Negative
 - We are no longer chlorinating
- Temperature Driven Water Issues
 - Over the past two weeks with the low temperatures, I have received a hand full of calls about homes that do not have water due to frozen pipes. When this issue occurs, there isn't anything we can do except inform the customer that they need to hire a plumber to thaw out their line. I do keep track of the calls to ensure that we do not have an issue in the main.
- Extractions
 - I did an extraction explanation of an old extraction I had done for Russ to be able to use for sewer
- Budget
 - The liberty Hill Job
 - If the highway moves forward with liberty hill the cost of materials to upgrade the line under the culvert is \$11,376.83.
 - New Truck
 - The quote for a dodge ram 2500 crew cab with body, plow, and ladder rack will not exceed \$66,234.00.
 - He will take our truck and plow in trade though is unsure of what those numbers are at this moment.
- Final Reads - 0

- Dig Safes -1
 - The end of Davison RD a new pole was installed. It was out of the way of the main or any service lines.

Commissioners moved to accept the Chief Operators report as written by consensus.

Old Business:

-Look at 2022 Budget

- Proposed Truck from Hillsboro Ford

The budget is down \$4,000 in wages and the budget presented this month has not changed since last month. The new truck has not been included and the original quote for the truck was \$63,000. Chair Gilbert received a response from the Dealership before the meeting that was an additional \$3,000.

Commissioner Hall asked what the difference is between the proposed budget and last year's budget. Chair Gilbert stated he spoke with the Financial Director who told him their budget is all set. Last year the budget was \$587,541 and the Chief Operator has the final numbers from the Circle Street project which saw a dramatic increase in the cost of quoted materials due to the 2020 shut down of non-essential industries. This year's budget is \$528,204.

Commissioner Connor asked why there was no line item for building repair. Chair Gilbert stated the roof and porch has been rebuilt. Commissioner Connor asked if there are any other repairs needed in the coming year. Chair Gilbert stated the pumps are up to date and redone, the buildings are sound, and the front steps to the office are legal.

Chair Gilbert stated he assumed debts have changed since the Davison Road tank has been paid off. Commissioner Hall stated a liner had been added to the tank and he wished they could get grants to replace the line on Rush Road.

Commissioner Hall noted the department is not doing mailings since PFAS reporting has changed. Chair Gilbert stated reporting still needs to be completed once a year.

Commissioner Hall stated the 2022 wages do not match up. There is a difference of \$15,400. The reason for the difference occurred because the salaries for the Superintendent and Chief Operator are combined including \$15,000 for overtime in the salaries as well as a separate line item for overtime.

Chair Gilbert stated the wages should be left as is since they will be hiring an additional employee. Commissioner Connor stated budget wise he does not think it will affect too much. Chair Gilbert stated he does not see anything that needs to be changed since it was pretty well hammered out at the last meeting. The truck still needs to be discussed with an increased price of \$3,000.

The proposed truck.

Commissioner Connor stated the price change could be from changing brands from Ford to Ram since Ford was not applicable to what the department needed. Chair Gilbert thought it was from having a crew cab and getting an extended cab with a normal door instead of a suicide door.

The total budget is \$528,204 which is close to what had been estimated.

The Commissioners finished discussing the budget and opened the floor to public comment. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Hall moved to accept the budget. Commissioner Connor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

New Business:

Letter from Chief Operator:

Commissioner Connor moved to enter into non-public. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hall moved to exit non-public. Commissioner Connor seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Concerns:

Commissioner Connor stated the fire hydrants are packed in snow and ice, then asked if it is appropriate to have WSO dig them out. Chair Gilbert stated the Chief Operator is still at work but was exposed to COVID and no one can be in the building until his quarantine is up and the building has been decontaminated. The Chief Operator is plowing has already shoveled out some of the fire hydrants.

Commissioner Hall stated he saw several on Maple Street. Chair Gilbert checked on The Chief Operator yesterday who said he is ok but not 100%.

Commissioner Connor stated given the hourly rates for WSO the department should be careful on hiring them to shovel since that can get expensive. Commissioner Hall stated the department has an obligation to keep the fire hydrants open for the Fire Department. Commissioner Hall asked if the Chief Operator would be able to clear all the hydrants. Chair Gilbert stated the Chief Operator should be capable in the next few days but will double check with him to confirm. Commissioner Connor suggested checking with Police Chief French to see if he has anyone needing community service help.

Next Meeting: February 15, 2022 4pm (16:00)

Adjourn:

Commissioner Connor moved to adjourn at 5:05pm. Chair Gilbert seconded. Motion carried 3-0.