

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

3855 Dartmouth College Highway

North Haverhill, NH 03774

October 23, 2018

PRESENT: Commissioners Lauer, Ahern & Piper, County Administrator Libby and Admin. Asst. Norcross.

OTHERS PRESENT: Human Resources Director Karen Clough, Maintenance Supt. Jim Oakes, Supt. Elliott.

Commissioner Lauer called the meeting to order at 9:00am and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supt. Oakes arrived and gave the following report:

**COMPLEX**

**Force Main Sewer Project (4/30/18 – 6/13/18)**

1. This project is fully complete and the contractor and engineer have been paid. We budgeted \$250,000 for this project; spent \$182,669, and thus have \$67,331 remaining to be put back into the general fund.

**Interior LED Lighting Retrofit** - In progress in following locations (targeting lights on 24/7)

- o Throughout DOC...ongoing. The last of the bulbs are earmarked for the kitchen area.

**Exterior Lighting Retrofit** – Completed all 13 pole lights and new lighting is much better than past and cost much less.

**Underground Storage Tanks (UST)** – Lakes Region Environmental completed the annual inspections and tests of all four of our USTs and monitoring systems. No defects noted other than Admin. Bldg. day tank, which is noted under that building below.

**Sprinkler Systems** – Hampshire Fire Protection completed the quarterly inspections and test of all our sprinkler systems, the annual inspections of the nursing home and Maint/Farm Bldg. dry systems and the 5-year internal pipe inspection of the Maint/Farm Bldg. No defects noted.

**Ansul Systems** – VT Fire Extinguisher completed the 6-month inspection on the DOC and Nursing Home kitchen hood fire suppression systems...No defects noted.

**Ozone Generator Systems** – Daniels Equipment Co. completed the annual overhaul of the DOC and Nursing Home Ozone generators.

**Elevator** – Service elevator intermittently makes rumbling sound when it lowers from second floor...Stanley Elevator service tech lubed rails, cleaned car and hall hanger tracks of buildup and reset faults

**Employee Entrance** – Sliding doors continually cycle back and forth about a foot. Door Controls Inc. service tech adjusted sensors

**Electromechanical Bed** – Bed wouldn't operate...Cut out bad section of wand harness and soldered everything back together

### ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

**Preventative Maintenance (PM)** – Performed various PM tasks throughout.

**Generator** – Fan belt checked and cracked...replaced belt

**Generator** – Base tank high level audible fuel alarm not working...adjusted fuel float

**Day Tank** – Boiler day tank overflow alarm is visual only and should have audible too...installed audible alarm

### Dept. of Corrections

**Preventative Maintenance (PM)** – Performed various PM tasks throughout

**Generator** - Base tank gauge inoperative...replaced gauge

**Kitchen** – Dishwasher booster relief valve not sealing...rebuilt relief valve

**Kitchen** – LH kettle not working due to a bad thermostat...replaced thermostat

**Laundry** – LH dryer won't light...cleaned corrosion from temperature sensor

**Vehicle Sally Port** – Camera globe broken...replaced globe

**Cell C02** – Inmate broke security glass in door...replaced glass

### MAINT/FARM BUILDING

**Preventative Maintenance (PM)** – Performed various PM tasks throughout

### FARM

**Dairy Barn** – Replaced numerous clapboards on West elevation and fixed broken windows. Prepped elevation for painting. Awaiting 4-5 dry days in a row to paint.

**Dairy Barn** – South section of Barn, East high drive doors, door frame and clapboards smashed in from being struck by a tractor. Fabricated new doors and hung them. Also replaced smashed sheathing and clapboards.

**Pig Barn** – Section of floor and timber under chicken coup area is rotted and needs replacement...on hold until existing work on dairy barn is complete.

### **BIOMASS PLANT**

**Preventative Maintenance (PM)** – Performed various PM tasks throughout.

**Boiler** – Cleaned boiler tubes, breaching and multi-cyclone. Plant back on line

### **ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING BUILDING**

**Preventative Maintenance (PM)** – Performed various PM tasks throughout

### **VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT**

**Preventative Maintenance (PM)** – Performed various PM tasks

### **OTHER**

#### **Energy independence**

- Freedom Energy Logistics: *Since meeting with Susan Olsen last month nothing has been pursued yet.*
- Revision Energy: While attending the tradeshow mentioned above, I sat through a class on solar energy sponsored by Revision Energy. The instructor, Jack Rudderman, said the cost of solar systems have dropped 75% in the past several years and that there are still subsidies from the federal government and state available to defray capital cost. There are also entities who are willing to pay for such projects on the condition they get so much return on their investment. However, our savings would be much lower going this route. I've sent Jack a copy of our utility bills and a history of our annual electrical usage. He will be speaking with Woodsville Water & Light to better understand the bills and to address concerns Bob Fagnant voiced about net metering and safety concerns. I've asked Jack to come to the complex to see how we are structured to best assess the viability and cost of installing such a system. *After speaking with Bob Fagnant, Jack says Revision Energy is not interested in pursuing a solar energy project here at Grafton County (See attached e-mail).*

- Woodsville Water & Light (WW&L): I spoke with Bob Fagnant and he conceded that this new legislation caught them and their power broker unaware. The WW&L commissioners are supposed to have a meeting with their broker to discuss the terms of their contract with the broker in relationship to this new legislation. Bob said their existing contract with the broker specifically states WW&L is not to accept any power from any other source than the broker, thus one of the main reasons for meeting. *I have been on FMLA for the last 3-weeks so I haven't heard how this meeting went. More to follow.*

Commissioner Ahern stated that any concerns regarding electricity or solar energy should be “run by” Susan Olsen. Supt. Oakes stated that until they know from Woodsville Water and Light what their piece is going to be minus the energy cost, regardless of who they talk to, they will never know whether that energy cost from another entity or Woodsville is better. Commissioner Ahern stated that WW&L has no interest in seeing this go forward. He stated that if WW&L does not move forward with this, then the county needs to take other action for the good of the taxpayers. The legislation is in place and WW&L should know what is going on. Supt. Oakes stated that he is trying to figure out what to do in the interim while he is waiting. He stated that they may have information from their meeting with the broker but he is unaware of that yet as he just returned from being out for three (3) weeks. He stated that he does not know if they will give him any information about that meeting. If they are stalling, the Commissioners will need to figure out what they will need to do to move things along. CA Libby suggested that the Commissioners should request to meet with the Commissioners from WW&L. Supt. Oakes stated that any third party sources that are interested in selling electricity to the county all need the transmission and distribution broken out. He stated that they will continue to run into this problem until they get that information from WW&L. Commissioner Lauer stated that working to obtain that information should be their goal right now. Commissioner Piper agreed and stated that the BOC should meet with the Commissioners from WW&L. CA Libby stated that Supt. Oakes should reach out to Bob Fagnant and see if they have made any progress, if not then they need to call and schedule a meeting. The Commissioners can then relay to them that it is law and they expect to get this information. Commissioner Lauer stated that they have a plan moving forward and they will wait to hear back with an update.

The Commissioners then opened bids for the sale of one (1) Truck Sander. One (1) bid was received as follows:

Mountain Star Farms - \$ 1,320.00

**MOTION:** Commissioner Piper moved to accept the bid from Mountain Star Farms in the amount of \$1,320.00. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Commissioner Lauer asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes of the September 16<sup>th</sup> and September 18<sup>th</sup> Commissioner meetings. Commissioner Piper had a couple of edits on the September 16<sup>th</sup> minutes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the minutes from September 16<sup>th</sup> as amended. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Piper moved to approve the September 18<sup>th</sup> minutes. Commissioner Ahern seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Commissioners signed check registers 15-17; 1055-1059.

CA Libby submitted the Subrecipient Agreements for Micro 2018 for WREN, GRDC and NCIC for Commissioner Lauer to sign.

CA Libby submitted the following drawdown requests from the Micro 2018 CDBG for Commissioner Lauer to sign:

- WREN - \$20,353
- GRDC - \$22,500

CA Libby submitted a list of appropriation transfer requests in the amount of \$3,093. She reviewed them with the Commissioners.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ahern moved to approve the Appropriation Requests in the amount of \$3,093. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

### September Financial Statements

#### *Monthly Variance Reports*

CA Libby stated the Nursing Home continues to be ahead on revenue. She stated that Deeds is also ahead in revenue but the rest of the departments are running behind in revenue which is not abnormal for this time of year. Tax bills will be sent out week, that revenue should start to come in. On the expense side the IT budget runs ahead as they pay service contracts in full in the beginning of the year and the budget will straighten out as they go through the fiscal year. The Farm is showing over expended in part due to real estate tax and insurances in the beginning of the year. She stated that the budget overall is under expended at this point.

#### *Prorated Report*

CA Libby stated that they are on target for revenue and under expended by \$1,050,000. The unassigned fund balance is almost \$3.1 million as of 9/30/18.

CA Libby requested to go into nonpublic session.

**MOTION:** \* 9:45 AM Commissioner Ahern moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the

reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant according to RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer "yes"; Commissioner Ahern "yes"; Commissioner Piper "yes" Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and would now go into non-public session.

\*9:56 AM Commissioner Lauer declared the meeting back in public session.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ahern moved to permanently seal the minutes from the just completed non-public session because they could affect the reputation of someone other than those of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Piper seconded the motion and all were in favor.

**MOTION:** \* 9:58 AM Commissioner Ahern moved to enter into non-public session for the purposes of the hiring of any person as a public employee according to RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Commissioner Piper seconded the motion. This motion requires a roll call vote, Commissioner Lauer called the roll. Commissioner Lauer "yes"; Commissioner Ahern "yes"; Commissioner Piper "yes" Commissioner Lauer stated that a majority of the board voted "yes" and would now go into non-public session.

\*11:45 AM Commissioner Lauer declared the meeting back in public session.

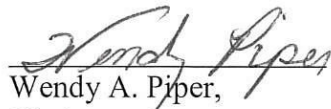
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Commissioner Issues:

Commissioner Lauer attended the North Country Council Annual Meeting last Wednesday at the Littleton Opera House. She also attended the Friendship House Ribbon Cutting on Friday and the Drug Court Graduation yesterday.

11:49 AM With no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Wendy A. Piper,  
Clerk