

Utility Commission November 5, 2018

The regular scheduled meeting of the Delmar Utility Commission was called to order by Vice Mayor Pase. In attendance were Commission Members Dickerson and Dewald, Council Member Smith, Deputy Mayor Unsell, Town Manager Bynum-King and Clerk of Council Fisher. Guests: Doug Marshall.

Approval of Minutes

Commission Member Dewald made a motion to approve the October, 2018 minutes as circulated. Commission Member Dickerson seconded the motion which passed with 5 ayes and 0 absent.

Unfinished Business

Update- Grove Street- Water Main Upgrade

Town Manager Bynum-King said that the Town is still on schedule to advertise the re-bidding of the project in December.

New Business

Town Manager Bynum-King said that this item was not on the agenda. She just received an email from the Town Engineers in reference to the Heron Ponds pump station. The Town engineers are recommending, based on the completion of the punch list items, that the Utility Commission accept the pump station at Heron Ponds as of October 30, 2018, contingent on the removal of the fuel tank that was on the site.

Mr. Doug Marshall stated that the fuel tank has been removed.

Commission Member Dewald made a motion to accept the recommendation from DB&F, the Town's engineering firm, to accept the pump station at Heron Ponds, Delmar, Maryland as of October 30, 2018 which was seconded by Council Member Smith. The motion passed with 5 ayes and 0 absent.

Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager informed everyone that there has been a new operator hired for the waste water treatment plant. He does not have a waste water license. He was employed with the city in which he lived prior to moving to Maryland and does have experience with the collection system and pump stations. He also has a CDL license which will enable him to drive the dump truck. He resides in Delmar, Maryland; about a ½ mile from the plant. He will be starting this Wednesday, November 7th.

Town Manager Bynum-King said that the FY19 budget has funds allocated for the cleaning of the aeration clarifier tanks. The process has begun for cleaning the east side clarifier. The service is being provided by CES, an outside skilled service provider. The Town Manager distributed

photos of the work going on inside the tanks and also shared pictures of the mop heads that are creating the problems. She informed the Commission that some of the diffuser may have to be replaced, that will be determined after the floor beds of the tanks are cleaned. Superintendent of Wastewater has ordered approximately 200 diffusers. If all are not needed, then we can use the remaining diffusers when the west side is cleaned. The west side aeration clarifier is scheduled to be cleaned in the spring.

On October 24th, Town Engineer Jason Loar arranged for a meeting with a representative from a manufacturing company to discuss retro fitting the screen and grit unit. Waste Water Superintendent Alonzo Hardy and Public Works Director Jerome Reid were present at the meeting. Mr. Loar is working with the manufacture company about securing quotes on the cost to retro-fit the headworks.

She said that the last time she spoke to the Utility Commission about the back-up well was in May. The well was completed and was on-line and operating as designed. At the end of October, she received a phone call from A. C. Shultes asking when they would be paid for a necessary piece of equipment they had purchased for a maintenance repair to well 3A. The repair required Well 3A to be taken off line. It didn't seem to be a concern since the Town has another well, however it was revealed that Mr. Cocke with DNREC was withholding the permit until additional testing could be completed to verify the contaminate PCE was not within the aquifer surrounding Well 3B.

Mr. Cocke from DNREC has required the Town to do some additional testing which will result in additional costs, to ensure that our back up well is not pulling contaminates before he will release our permit.

Town Manager Bynum-King said that back-up well installation was completed in May of 2018. We need to do the repairs to Well 3 A that requires it to be taken off line and it has been delayed because the back-up well is not permitted to be on line. The Town engineers are working with Mr. Cocke, the DNREC Representative. If the Town is unable to successfully resolve Mr. Cocke's request, then the Town will need to reach out to Representative Dukes for some assistance to resolve the matter.

Commission Member Dickerson asked how much these additional tests would cost, the Town Manager responded approximately \$10-\$15,000. The Town Manager added the Town has been cleared by EPA on the matter of PCE and she felt that clearance should be enough for DNREC. She also mentioned that she sent an email to Town Engineer Aaron Goller asking him to provide a status report identifying exactly what DNREC was requesting from the Town. She said that she has not received a reply prior to this meeting.

The Town Manager informed the Utility Commission that Auditor Mark Welsh would be presenting the annual audit reports for Delmar, Delaware and the Utility Commission at the Mayor and Council meeting this evening.

Commission's Comments

Commission Member Dickerson stated that he trusts everyone will get out and vote tomorrow.

Public Comments

Developer Doug Marshall offered his experience to the Town and developers who are taking over abandoned developments. He said that there is a smoother way to do things than what he experienced working with the Town and the Town's engineering firm. He said that it is a very complicated process to do simple little things. He is offering his support for other developers.

He thanked the Town and the Utility Commission for the acceptance of Heron Ponds pump station and street lights. He stated that he does have an offer on Heron Ponds for the remainder of the land. When asked, he responded that he will be moving the house from Rt. 13 to Heron Ponds on November 15th.

Adjournment

Council Member Smith made a motion for adjournment which was seconded by Commissioner Unsell. The motion passed with 5 ayes and 0 absent.

Submitted by:

Cindy Fisher
Clerk of Council