

**WEIRTON AREA WATER BOARD
REGULAR SESSION- 2023 AGENDA**

January 11, 2024

A regular session of the Weirton Area Water Board was called to order at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2024, in Room 201 of the City Building, by Ron Jones, Chairman.

Members in attendance were Ron Jones; George Ash, Sr. (phone); Don Gianni, Jr.; Jim Shockley; Rocky Bragg; and Flora Perrone.

WAWB Staff present were Butch Mastrantoni; Jasen Havens; Lori Veltri; Brent Reckner; Brian Kuntz; Jeff Bertha; Chuck Tenaglio; Brandon Gelder; and Dan Guida.

Also attending were Jesse Alden of Thrasher Engineering and Ben Erste of the BHJ.

MINUTES

Mr. Gianni made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2023, Board meeting. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Administrative Report – With no discussion from Board members regarding the Administrative Report, it was approved as submitted.

Finance Report: Mr. Kuntz reviewed the finance report, which was included in the Board packet. Mr. Shockley made a motion to reimburse the General Fund for our shared expense in the amount of \$3,666.00 for the month of January 2024. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bragg made a motion to reimburse the General Fund for our shared expense for the December 2023 Smart Bill in the amount of \$2,718.85. Mr. Gianni seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Delinquent Report: Mr. Reckner gave the delinquent report. The shut off date for the November 2023 bill run was January 3, 2024. The 30-day cycle ends on February 2, 2024. Total accounts to be collected or terminated on or after the January 3, 2024, shut off date were 1,108. Of this number, 447 were more than one bill past due, 1 has paid in full, 0 made partial payments and still have an outstanding past due balance, 1 has been shut off, 15 received time extensions and will be collected in regular procedure should they fail to pay as agreed, 11 customers received pledges, and 8 customers are under multi-payment contracts. Six hundred forty-two single bills are past due. Councilwoman Perrone asked if

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the online bill pay was back up. Mr. Mastrantoni replied that he did not know, but he would find out.

Citizens Comments and Communications: There were no citizens' comments or communications.

Utility Director Communications: Mr. Mastrantoni had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on the WTP Expansion Project – Mr. Alden reported that at the last meeting, the Board decided to move forward with rebidding the project. They advertised the project, and the bid opening is scheduled for February 1. They had their pre-bid meeting yesterday. A third contractor, G.M. McCrossen, showed up at the pre-bid meeting. They typically do not bid on projects in West Virginia, but Mr. Alden feels that our proximity to Pittsburgh makes this project attractive to them. The big change was removing the BABA requirements and adding the American Iron and Steel requirements, so they are expecting to see a reduction in the bids when they are opened on February 1. They are continuing their project calls. Provided the bids come in within the money that's available, they should be able to expedite the closing and move the project to construction. The bid opening is at 11:00 a.m. in Room 201. All Board members are invited to attend. Mr. Alden gave an update on the schedule for bidding. The pre-bid meeting was yesterday. They will issue addendum #1 tomorrow. The last day for questions is January 20. The final addendum will be issued on January 26. Mr. Mastrantoni reported that they were in the process of getting three readings of ordinances for water and sewer approved to support our closing. Council approved both of those ordinances unanimously at their meeting on January 8. There was also a public hearing scheduled, and there were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Resolution #234 – To Authorize the Utilities Director to Enter into an Agreement with Freeman Industries, Inc. for our Yearly Cathodic Protection Services not to Exceed \$5,500.00** – Mr. Bragg commented that Freeman does a

great job, they provide a good price, and we need to do this for the protection of the tanks. He made a motion to approve Resolution #234. Mr. Shockley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Resolution #235 – Authorize Utilities Director to Write Off Uncollectable Accounts Receivable for 2022 in the amount of \$40,110.37** – Mr. Kuntz reported that this covers the period from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022. That amount is about \$5,000.00 more than we wrote off last year. Mr. Gianni made a motion to approve Resolution #235. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Approve Renewal of the WVDEP Four Year Lease for Their Air Monitoring Station Located on the Marland Heights Water Tank Property for \$2,250.00 Per Year** – Mr. Mastrantoni reported that the DEP has a sensor device at this location that monitors air quality. Mr. Guida commented that the previous contract was for \$2,000.00 per year, but it has expired. He has reviewed the contract and discussed it with Mr. Havens, and it is ready to be signed. The new contract will be in the amount of \$2,250.00 per year. Mr. Shockley made a motion to approve the WVDEP Four Year Lease. Mr. Gianni seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Approval of the 2024 Board Meeting Schedule** – Mr. Ash made a motion to approve the 2024 Board Meeting Schedule. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **Next Meeting Date** – February 15, 2024

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Ash asked how long it would take to review the bids and see which one they want to recommend. Mr. Alden replied that they will be able to issue the certified bid tabulation within a couple days of the bid. Provided that everything looks good for the low bid contractor, they would issue a recommendation to award that day. Mr. Ash asked if the Board would vote on it on February 15. Mr. Mastrantoni replied that they would. Mr. Ash asked if they wanted to wait that long or if they wanted to do it before that. Mr. Mastrantoni stated that once an award is made, they are good to go because they can't go any faster than the closing. He did not feel it would do any good to expedite a meeting in between.

Mr. Havens provided a response to Councilwoman Perrone's question regarding the online

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portal. Mr. Stewart reported that it is still down. He has reached out to the company, and they said they are working on it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before this January 11, 2024, Regular Session of the Weirton Area Water Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bragg and seconded by Mr. Shockley. The next Regular Session of the Weirton Area Water Board was set for February 15, 2024.



Ron Jones, Chairman