



FORT SMITH WATER & SEWER DISTRICT
Board Meeting Minutes-Friday, August 23, 2024

-OPENING – ROLL CALL- Alan Shaw called the meeting to order @ 9:00 AM on August 23, 2024. The meeting was held in person and via phone conference; call in number was 1-408-650-3123, Access Code: 798-713-981; Board members attending: Alan Shaw, Katie Steele, Steve Saville, and Jim Hyde; Employees attending: Sandy Kust and Josh McCraw; public attending: Richard & Beth Allgood, Bonnie & Dave Evans, Susan & William Burgan, Roy Bellew, and Eric Anderson

-APPROVAL OF JULY 26, 2024 MEETING MINUTES- Motion by Mr. Hyde to accept the meeting minutes from July 26, 2024 as printed, 2nd by Ms. Steele; motion carried unanimously.

-FINANCIALS/BILLS- Mr. Saville presented the treasurers report for August 2024. Expenses: \$15,610.56; income: \$25,455.64; checking account balance: \$85,185.86 + CDARS \$29,976.00; total: \$115,161.86. Motion by Mr. Saville to pay the bills, 2nd by Ms. Steele, motion carried unanimously.

-DELINQUENT REPORT- Currently there are 5 accounts that are past due, totaling \$4,646.30; the water is turned off on all accounts and have been turned into the Department of Revenue to be put on the taxes.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT: Sandy continues to work with the MT Department of Revenue to update the water Special Assessment as there are a lot of changes do to the Forever Merging of properties and changing of square footage on these lots, assessment is due on September 2, 2024.

-WASTEWATER PROJECT

- 1. WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE:** Project is nearing completion, the lagoons continue to be filled and then aerators and irrigation equipment will be tested, lift stations are being used, there was a failure at the lift stations but that has been fixed. The rail cars are in the process of being abandoned. The District is still waiting to hear from FEMA regarding the reclamation of the lagoon, if the FEMA application is not approved the District will use remaining loan funds for the reclamation. Project is anticipated to be completed in October 2024.

-OPERATOR REPORT- Josh continues to work with contractors on the wastewater project and is getting training on all the new equipment. Josh stated the project is close to the end and is excited to see it be in use. Russel Industries installed the lift station pumps and will also inspect the water pumps. Josh put in a request for a magnet with a dolly for the manhole lids as they are very heavy and the magnet will make it much easier and safe for inspections and maintenance of manholes, cost is \$1,500.

Motion by Dr. Shaw to purchase the magnet and dolly, 2nd by Ms. Steele, motion carried unanimously.

-RESORT TAX UPDATE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT SPECIAL

COMMITTEE- This is on hold until the winter as committee members are busy with their

seasonal workloads and winter is not as busy. More and more residents are in favor of the resort tax as could be used to fix roads, establish fire protection, etc.

-ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY IN DISTRICT BOUNDARIES-LOT WITH HOME ALREADY BUILT- The District board held a public meeting and received comments/suggestions from the public. The District has the capacity and received a completed application & petition by property owners. Property is 22.89 acres and currently has a septic system and cistern. The owners understand if the property is annexed into the District boundaries that they will have to have the septic system inspected yearly, pay the monthly base rate for water, pay the impact fee, be a part of the sewer assessment and hook into the sewer system when their septic system fails.

A motion by Ms. Steele to adopt the ordinance 8-23-24 for annexation of property into the District, 2nd by Dr. Shaw, motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Shaw will prepare a letter to go out with the billing with notice of the passage of annexation and information for District members wanting to submit a petition within the 30 day period, requesting a District-wide election be held regarding the annexation.

NEW BUSINESS:

PARCEL DISTRICT OWNS: Mr. Saville asked when property will go up for sale as it has a water & sewer hookup on it. Dr. Shaw stated the contractors need to clean up the site and once it is cleaned up discussion will take place for selling this property.

AUGUST MEETING- September 27, 2024 @ 9am.

-PUBLIC COMMENTS- Bonnie Evans asked when lagoon was going to be fenced as not having it fenced is a safety issue and a huge liability. Chris Hayes, RPA Engineering, stated the materials are being brought to the site within the week and the fence will start once all excavation work is completed around the lagoon. Bonnie also asked about the handouts for the motels and other businesses regarding the “no wipes down the pipes”. Handouts will be sent to Econo Print to get printed and laminated.

Susan Burgan stated the board consider a sewer fee charge for the Allgoods as only fair.

-ADJOURN MEETING- Motion by Mr. Hyde to adjourn meeting, 2nd by Dr. Shaw, meeting adjourned at 10:44 AM