

# PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

FAYAL TOWN HALL

NOVEMBER 9, 2021

The regular meeting of the Fayal Public Utilities Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman Amy Jackson. Present were Commissioners: Amy Jackson, Dave Hamalainen, Chris Erickson, Gina Brascugli and recording secretary Diane Dickson. Ed Vest attended via conference call.com.

Also in attendance were Town Board Chairman Tony Tammaro.

Vice Chair Amy, welcomed Dave Hamalainen to the Commission, Dave served during the years when the sewer project was new and met every week.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Motion to approve the regular PUC meeting minutes of October 12, 2021 made by Chris Erickson, second by Ed Vest. Motion carried unanimously.**

## GUESTS

Chairman Tony Tammaro nothing at this time.

## CORRESPONDENCE

*Delinquency Reports* as of 10-25-2021 \$8,136.97. Tony feels we have been doing well with the county assessment process. Reviewed and placed on file.

*October Water Wastewater Report.* During the cleaning and televising a couple of issues were found and they had to repair, Tony reports we may see a \$40k bill from Jola and Sopp. Gina stated she was shocked while watching the crew as they were trying to dewater and they could not pump it out fast enough and it kept filling up the hole was huge it took a lot of work to get to the pipe. Amy states we are losing revenue by not repairing it. Tony states there is another spot they have to dig and repair. He states they were 20' deep and possibly taking on a gallon a minute. Tony is thinking they will pay for it out of the CD. No estimate prior due to the amount of water that they had to deal with. It was an emergency so they just did it. This is why we need to camera as part of new construction to verify all is good. There was a property pin that went through our mainline by Roy's. Rick shoveled it and repaired the line. They are going to send the bill for Ricks time to the Survey Co. Reviewed and placed on file.

11-4-21 MPCA Grants available for local government to prepare for warmer wetter conditions. Application deadline is Tuesday December 21, 2021. Ed said it appears to be grants for planning. Placed on file.

*Roster 11-2021* has been updated. Heidi said Chris will still be on the PUC for January but will be off for February. Then Chris can come back as a new after not being on the PUC for one month. Gina will start as her first full term. Diane tracks the terms on the roster for the history.

## OLD BUSINESS

*Access to Availability Ord 98-1 & 98-2*~Ed is working on updating the wording from *Access to Availability and SAC Resolution 2018-13 & 2000-14- Twin homes 98-2*. Amy also said she will be helping. Tony said we need to do it due to the possibility of a development on St Mary's Lake. Ed will call Amy and Diane after deer hunting.

*American Rescue Plan Act*~ The Town has received half of the funds. A-1 pump was paid with this.

*Waterline Survey Park Dr*~ No interest in a new waterline except Craddock.

*Mark & Jinny Craddock* ~ co-owners with Janet and Doug Laube 7571 W Park Blvd. Have asked the Town to grant an easement along the North side of the ballfield to trench in a private water line from the mainline on Woodlawn Dr. Heidi advised him to work with Jola and Sopp.

Ed asks what the status of the ball field is. Tony said the planning commission is reviewing it.

*Certification Fee*~Clerk Coldagelli is working on the cost estimate report for the certification time.

*Zebra Mussels in Ely Lake*~Nothing new, the lake keeps going down.

*MN Pump Works* ~ Quote has been approved and signed to replace Base Elbow E-1, has not been done yet.

*Great Lakes Pipes Service* ~ The job has been completed. They found 2 broken pipes on the line behind Shady Lane. Jola and Sopp were called to dig and repair. They have been dewatering to get down to the pipe. They also found a new property pin that is going through the mainline sewer pipe that will have to be dug and repaired its only 3' deep.

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Gene Knutson Property markers*~ Gene thinks the Town moved his marking sticks when they cleared the easement for sewer line cleaning. Rick met with Gene he did not recall seeing anything in that area. Gene has not seen them for several years. Tony states Rick was not in the area. Diane reports a true survey pin is in the ground not above the ground. Discussion PUC feels the Town is not responsible.

*Bankruptcy Notice* ~ Heidi been in contact with Scott Neff and we are awaiting instruction. Amy advises to call the Bankruptcy attorney and ask if they are going to be living in the house or not or call the people. You cannot talk about the past debt. Create a new account and for services going forward.

*Property Split on Ely Lake Dr and Russ Rd.* We received one SAC and the other one will be paid with the next bill. They are paying in full.

*Estimate fee* ~ \$3 is not encouraging people to read the meter. The computer estimates the reading.

Discussion, some people never read or rarely read. Tony states we should look at automatic readers if there is money for infrastructure now. Eveleth charges \$10 for estimating. Amy says we should verify if there is a limit. We will send someone out to check on the meters on a routine basis. We will work on this and consider it for the next meeting. Possibly have a policy to go out and check if it is estimating after so many months and possibly have a trip charge for that. Chris asks if we can give them a free pass to the first month if we change it to \$10, Diane will check with Banyon. Amy states we will table till next meeting.

Gina questions if we can shut off the water with the cold weather rule. Amy states it doesn't mean you can't shut them off just you have to accept payments. Diane states we don't fall under the rule because we don't have electric.

**TREASURER REPORT**

Chris reports last month we were -\$26,000 in the Sewer Co that was for the pump and it has been put back into the account. Now we are \$26k to the good. Tony said the \$40k will come from the depreciation CD for the repairs. The Water Co. this is the first month with the new rates and its still negative. Heidi reported there were some extra hours from Rick. Tony stated Rick is going to start working more with the road and bridge. Like a day a week which will help out with the water and sewer company. Dave asks if there are any loans left, there are no loans. Amy asks what is happening with Gilbert plant. Tony says the plant is not operating like it should. The membranes are not working, no one else uses the technology.

Clerk Coldagelli provided the financial report as of 10-30-2021 Year to date.

FWC Beginning balance 2021 \$38,907.11 Revenues \$71,952.56 Expenditures \$92,334.69.

Cash balance \$16,325.82. Depreciation CD bal. \$101,154.48.

FSC Beginning balance 2021 \$93,291.30 Revenues \$642,899.26 Expenditures \$630,667.72.

Cash balance \$71,383.59. Depreciation CD \$268,372.14 (\$874.25 2020 int.) PUC Truck Depreciation CD \$30,318.31 (\$89.21 2020 int.) Assessment Savings Balance \$425,121.64.

PUC Beginning balance 2021 \$15.85 Revenues \$7,974.09 Expenditures \$7,681.14 Cash bal. \$308.80.

**CABLE**

Expensive, people are leaving cable to go to streaming services.

**STREET LIGHTS**

Street Light on Hwy 53 is owned by the County and they will be fixing it tomorrow.

**FYI**

Next PUC meeting will be held December 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

- **Motion to adjourn by Dave Hamalainen, second by Gina Brascugli.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Diane Dickson  
Fayal Township Deputy Clerk  
PUC Coordinator/Billing Clerk

Approved 12-14-21

