

## MINUTES

City of Norwich, Water Commission

October 21, 2020

**Present;** Comm. D. Wilson, Comm. G. Baas, Comm. T. Bresina, Chairman J. Drelich

**Also Present;** E. Pepe

**Absent;** Comm. J. Kelly

The meeting was opened by Comm. D. Wilson at 6:36 pm.

Minutes from September 16, 2020 were discussed. Comm. D. Wilson stated the minutes were missing our conversation about the potential of selling Chenango Lake lakeshore property and requested we add that before approval.

**Visitors;** None

**Correspondence;** None

### **Old Business;**

1. Tree Removal at Chenango Lake – At the last meeting, it was discussed that a resident on Chenango Lake requested the City remove a rotting tree on City property. The Water Commission discussed if/what liability the city had if the tree fell and damaged private property that was located on city property. The Water Commission suggested we discuss with the City attorney. Supt. Pepe did some research on this and discovered that this same question has come up in the past. And in 1981, the City attorney deemed that the City did have liability if someone pointed out a rotting tree on City property. Therefore, Supt. Pepe recommends that the City remove the tree. The Commission agreed. In this specific case above, the homeowner had the tree removed and the City reimbursed for the cost of tree removal.
2. Sale of Water Dept. property at Pires garden shop – Both Pires and the City are interested in pursuing this transfer. The City needs to take the next steps. Supt. Pepe will discuss with the Finance Director.
3. WWTP Nutrient removal Study – The City received Qualification Proposals from 3 highly qualified firms. The City has asked for Fee Proposals to supplement. The City is also working on completing the required paperwork for the EFC engineering planning grant.
4. Lead service Line. No new updates. The City has provided all documents to enter into an agreement with the NYSDOH. The city is now awaiting on approval of the documents from the

NYSDOH. This project will provide grant money for the replacement of lead service lines in the City.

5. Water Meter replacements – No new updates. The water meters in the city are 20 or more years old. The current meters are outdated technology, and the City has been researching new technologies to replace the water meters. New technologies that appear to be the most promising are ultrasonic and electromagnetic. The City is requesting propagation studies and budgetary quotes from several manufacturers.
6. Potential of wireless antenna mounted on Dunn Dr. Tank. – Common Council voted to move forward with this plan. The DPW will work closely with the contractor regarding final location of all equipment.
7. Chenango Lake Shoreline Property – This discussion continued.
8. Commission members – We discussed the fact that after Commissioner Winans resigned we are down to 5 commissioners. The Commission is made up of 7 members. So we are two commissioners short of a full commission. Also, we need to vote on a new chairman/woman.

#### **New Business**

1. New Filter Plant SPDES Permit – Supt. Pep informed the Commission that the City has been issued a notice of violation by the DEC for discharging aluminum in the filter backwash which is discharged to Ransford Creek in greater concentration than what is permitted. The City does not add any products to the filter backwash that would increase aluminum, so they are undertaking a study to determine the cause of the aluminum in the backwash.
2. Subway Water Main break – The buried water main that crosses Route 12 near Subway has leaking joints. The City is evaluating potential options to repair using trenchless technology because they cannot open cut Route 12. Options are Cure in place lining (CIPP), slip lining with a rubber liner, or installing a new pipe inside the old.

**Adjournment;** Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. Next meeting is Nov 18th, 2020.