

“For Cleaner Lakes and Rivers”

GRAND HAVEN-SPRING LAKE SEWER AUTHORITY

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
1525 WASHINGTON AVENUE
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN 49417
PHONE: (616) 847-3486

The regular meeting of the Grand Haven-Spring Lake Sewer Authority will be held at 8:15 A.M. on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 in the Council Chambers in Grand Haven City Hall located at 519 Washington St. Grand Haven, Michigan 49417

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday May 15, 2024

8:15 A.M.

1. Meeting called to order 8:17 a.m.

2. Roll Call:

Gordon Gallagher
Vice-Chair Ashley Latsch
Treasurer Craig Bessinger
Patrick Staskiewicz
Bill Cargo
Brady Selner
Steve Namenye

Not Present:

Joel Tepastte

Also Present:

Ryan Vredevelde
Cory VanOeveren
Matt Wade

Spring Lake Township
City of Grand Haven
City of Ferrysburg
Ottawa County Road Commission
Grand Haven Township
Village of Spring Lake
Member at Large

Village of Spring Lake

WWTP Superintendent
WWTP Environmental Compliance Supervisor
Grand Haven Township Alternate

3. Approval of the minutes of the February 21, 2024 Sewer Authority Board meeting

Motion to approve minutes – Bessinger
Staskiewicz – Second
All in favor – Motion carries

4. Public Comment

- No public comment

5. Financial Report

- Total increase in spending of \$336,356, but includes \$449,650 of cash projects
 - o Mainly from increased costs of baffle wall replacement project
- Motion to approve projected amendments to the budget – Namenye
- Second – Latsch
- All in favor – Motion carries

6. Superintendent's Report

- No violations to NPDES permit
- Land Application took place – 970,000 gallons applied
 - o Remaining storage capacity at end of April about 1,500,000 gallons
- Finished with phase 1 of property identification/survey
 - o Phase 2 ready to begin – Identify easements
- GHPS air release project on track to start in early June
- SLPS generator project – New ATS ordered to replace the failed equipment
 - o Long lead time – Anticipated to take place late fall / early winter
- Equipment storage building had the east wall replaced due to water damage
 - o Tuck pointing remaining 3 walls and installing gutters to prevent further damage
- P&N is underway with digestion feasibility study
- Updated on completed projects and projects in process
- Biosolids drying studies underway to determine best route of handling solids in the future
 - o Becoming more important
 - There were 3 contractors in the state that handled land application, but now there is only 2. Raises concerns over future rates
 - PFOS and PFOA are becoming more stringent national (EPA)
 - Currently our numbers are significantly lower than EPA or EGLE limits, but the future limits are unknown
 - o Cargo – Raised concerned that PFAS will still be an issue even with a new disposal method. More discussion to take place as studies near completion.

7. General Business.

A. Debt Rates for FY 2024-2025

Memo from Ottawa County Road Commission providing their recommendations for debt rates for our 2013 and 2018 bonds

- Looked into different ways to manage excess funds to maintain a responsible balance
 - o Debt rate presented by OCRC
 - o Headworks and pump station improvements (all municipality funded portions) – Rate relief has been provided over the last few years due to

receiving a grant, this is the final year of that relief – recommendation to just let this fiscal year run out and remaining funds be added into a construction project rather than be dispersed as a partial relief

- Motion to adopt recommended debt rates as proposed – Cargo
 - o Second – Bessinger
 - o All in favor – motion carries
- Comment by Cargo – This motion was not to imply that we don’t want to have conversations about the “partial relief” of rate increases. Further discussions will be needed.

B. Sewer Authority Property Update

- Survey performed by P&N
 - o Survey confirmed Sewer Authority property
 - o Northern half of the vacated Columbus Ave. does not show to be deeded to the Sewer Authority’s property, or Eastpoint. There is also no legally established easement in place.
 - o Staskewicz – Typical judgement would give rights to local government (City of GH) and they would then have the ability to grant ownership to the adjacent property owner.
 - o Looking for legal action from the board to determine a Sewer Authority ownership of easement for this vacated property.
 - City of GH attorney, and sewer authority attorney need to have discussion in order to clarify this portion of property and obtain an easement
 - Board recommendation to start discussions with the City of Grand Haven to obtain this easement

C. Evaluation of Plant Superintendent

Continued discussion from August 2023 meeting

- Executive committee met with Ryan to perform evaluation and discuss future evaluations
- Provided a recommendation for increased compensation
- Motion to approve recommended evaluation and wage increases – Cargo
- Second – Namenye
- All in favor – Motion carries

8. Board Member Comments.

9. Announcement of next Sewer Authority Meeting: August 21, 2024

10. Adjournment. 9:12 a.m.

Sewer Authority Members:

Brady Selner
City of Grand Haven - Vacant
Ashley Latsch, Vice-Chairperson

Alternate Members:

Wally Delamater

Derek Gajdos

Craig Bessinger, Treasurer
Steve Namenye
Gordon Gallagher
Patrick Staskiewicz
Bill Cargo
Joel TePastte

Matt Schindlbeck

Joe Wallace
Matt Wade

Consultants:

Matt VanHoef

Others:

Grand Haven Tribune
Bob Monetza
Maria Boersma

GENERAL MEMBERS: IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR
ALTERNATE SO THAT HE/SHE MAY