

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LAVALE SANITARY COMMISSION  
OCTOBER 13, 2022

The regular meeting of the Commissioners of the LaVale Sanitary Commission was held at the Commission's office in LaVale, Maryland on Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 9:00 AM.

Chairman Gehauf, Commissioners Hensel, George, McKenzie, and Young were in attendance. Director of Operations Wendt and Maintenance Supervisor Emerick were also in attendance.

Jose Taylor, Western Maryland Property Management, was also in attendance.

Chairman Gehauf called the meeting to order and stated the minutes of the meeting of September 8, 2022, had been mailed to the Commissioners. Commissioner Hensel moved that the minutes be approved. Commissioner Young seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Chairman Gehauf greeted Mr. Taylor and turned the meeting over to him. Mr. Taylor stated he had a leak at 345 National Highway and had called the Commission to discuss the situation. He went on to say that his treatment by Mr. Wendt was adversarial and he wanted the Commission to address the situation. Mr. Wendt stated that the water and sewer was the responsibility of the property owner, and he wasn't required to deal with property managers. Discussion followed concerning the issue. Mr. Taylor left the meeting at 9:30 AM.

Chairman Gehauf asked Mr. Emerick for his maintenance report. Mr. Emerick stated that Commission personnel had installed a new hydrant on Henry Drive. He stated there was some issues with shrubs in the right of way.

Mr. Emerick stated Commission personnel had installed an outside meter at 547 A Street and repaired a sidewalk removed by the Commission on Second Street.

Mr. Emerick stated Commission personnel installed a new drain line at the water plant.

Mr. Emerick then briefed the Commission on issues at 13808 Stonepoint Road. He stated Commission personnel had responded to an after hours call and attempted to find a shut off for the property. He stated he could not find a shut off and made a temporary fix to stop the leak within the house. Commission personnel then had to go on to the property and follow the service line out to the main to find the shutoff. Discussion followed concerning the problem and possible alternatives to digging on private property. Mr. Emerick stated an outside meter was installed and the shutoff valve was now accessible.

Mr. Emerick stated he had dug a test pit on Martz Lane to determine if the Commission had a leak in a problematic area. Discussion followed concerning the issue. There were no visible leaks on the Commission main.

Mr. Emerick then presented the Commission with pictures of a galvanized line replacement on Eleanor Street. He stated the old galvanized line served two homes and had numerous leaks. He stated the old line was almost 50% blocked.

Mr. Emerick stated Walker Paving had patched National Highway at Campground Road.

Mr. Emerick reported Commission personnel had been using the leak detection equipment and had a potential leak at 10 Cherokee Drive. He stated that after excavating no leak was located.

Mr. Emerick stated the problem sewers had been addressed. He stated that a section of sewer line at 1010 National Highway is on the list to be replaced.

Mr. Emerick reported that a blocked sewer main on Eleanor Street had been cleared and a section of the line had been replaced.

Mr. Emerick briefed the Commission on a sewer problem on McHenry Street. He stated Commission personnel had cleared the blockage.

Mr. Wendt then presented the Commission with copies of the Water, Sewer, and Revenue reports for September 2022.

During August 2022, lost water was 52,457 gallons per day.

During September 2022, lost water was 37,420 gallons per day.

Zone 1 Lost	412 Gallons per day	Zone 2 Lost	6,848 Gallons per day
Zone 3 Lost	4,119 Gallons per day	Zone 4 Lost	8,224 Gallons per day
Zone 5 Lost	5,859 Gallons per day	Zone 5A Lost	557 Gallons per day
Zone 6 Lost	9,064 Gallons per day	Zone 7 Lost	0 Gallons per day
Zone 8 Lost	2,974 Gallons per day		

Discussion continued concerning the reports.

Under the heading of Active Construction Projects, Mr. Wendt briefed the Commission on the status of the Braddock Run-Jennings Run sewage conveyance improvement project. He stated Garney Construction was substantially complete with the gravity sewer portion of the project. He stated the jack and bore for the replacement of the Route 36 Pump Station was the final item to be addressed before the project could be completed. Discussion followed concerning the project.

Mr. Wendt then briefed the Commission on the status of the Pump Station portion of the project. He stated the excavation for the building was under way and there was some blasting going on. He showed the Commission a video for the previous days blast.

Mr. Wendt then briefed the Commission on the status of the Water Main/Force Main portion of the project. He stated a preconstruction meeting had been scheduled for October 18, 2022. He went on to say he had received the first pay request had been received from Belt Construction. The request was for \$1,937,414.40 for stored materials. He went on to say that he had agree to break out the Commission portion of the pay request and submit payment to the contractor and then provide the County with backup for their portion of the request. He went on to say he had contacted Standard Bank about interim financing for the project.

Commissioner Young then opened discussion regarding the issues with the proposed overflow outfall and the potential solution for the issue. He stated he and Mr. Wendt had numerous meetings with the County regarding the potential solution. Mr. Young stated that because of the relocation of the outfall to the Commission's permitted outfall it was in the best interest of the Commission to give ownership of the gravity sewer from the LaVale Pump Station to the new Locust Grove Pump Station to the County. Extensive discussion followed concerning the line. Commissioner George moved the Commission transfer ownership of the new gravity sewer line and the Commission's existing overflow at the LaVale Pump Station to the County pending approval by MDE. Commissioner McKenzie seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Under the heading of Communications, Mr. Wendt briefed the Commission on the issues with the state bids for vehicles. He stated the state bid for pickup trucks was due mid-October and he would place the order at that time. He requested clarification as to how many trucks could be ordered. Commissioner Hensel stated two should be ordered and there is still a 365-day lead time for trucks.

Mr. Wendt then presented the Commission with two sewer credit requests. The requests were as follows:

12413 Butler Drive	\$348.51
310 National Highway	\$288.56

Commissioner Young moved the credits be approved. Commissioner Hensel seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Under the heading of New Business, Mr. Wendt presented the Commission with a spreadsheet showing cost increases incurred by the Commission since the last rate increase. He stated there was a need to discuss a rate increase to offset some of these increases. Commissioner George stated he would like to table rate increase discussion until the fiscal year audit is completed.

Chairman Gehauf moved the public meeting be closed. Commissioner Hensel seconded and it was unanimously carried. The public meeting was closed at 11:00 AM.

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Chairman

  
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Secretary/Treasurer