

Town of Amenia

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Amenia Town Clerk

Amenia Water District Committee MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023

INAUGURAL MEETING, AMENIA TOWN HALL 1ST FLOOR, 6 P.M.

- PRELIMINARIES WHILE MEMBERS ARRIVED:

- By 6 P.M. 3 members (Quorum) had arrived, so Town Board Laison, Damion Gutierrez started things off by handing out the data/documents that Bill Flood had prepared. Members present made it clear we still wanted Bill on the Committee & hoped the Town Board would reinstate him soon.
- Primary among those was Town Code Chapter 119, WATER ORDINANCE (2021) -- Our Bible, which not only enshrined the WATER DISTRICT COMMITTEE as being Required for the Legal Administration of the Amenia Water District (#1), but describes our role as Advisors to the Town Board on the operation of the District, and any rate increaseses that may be necessary. Some Explanation of unusual/ exceptional requirements of "SPECIAL DISTRICTS" ensued, with members asking specifically about the role of the WATER OPERATOR and the CEO (Code Enforcement Officer). CM Gutierrez made a rather vague reference concerning the status of the current CEO, Mike Segelken.
- The other Documents included were:
 - a. The March 2021 Engineer's Narrative from John Andrews on the Condition/need to replace the Pump House at the Lavelle Road Well Site. Estimated Costs 3 years ago, \$236,000+.
 - b. The September 2021 WATER DISTRICT Capital Plan submitted by Marco D'Antonio, SEBI ENVIRONMETAL SERVICES.

- c. The August, 2022 LEAD SERVICE LINE Survey for the whole District prepared by LCL Engineering (very comprehensive). It must be noted that it was SEBI's own engineer that aided in the developement of the Project Plan. Cost Estimate is **\$481,000 – JUST FOR THE SURVEY.** No lines actually replaced!
- d. Rheams of general accounts ledgers for the last 2 years!

As it was coming up on 6:15, we decided to start the meeting with the 3 Members present: Katie Martiniak; Toni Maillet; Patrick Nelligan (Bill Flood? & James Walsh absent).

REGULAR MEETING

Loosely called to order; Several Items to be accomplished to constitute the Committee officially:

- Election of Chairperson: Patrick Nelligan nominated Katie Martiniak; Toni Maillet Seconded; All 3 present voted YES.
- Selection of Secretary: Toni Maillet graciously nominated Patrick Nelligan, Katie Martiniak Seconded; All 3 present voted YES.
- Selection of Deputy Chair postponed until June meeting.
- Setting Regular Meeting Date & Time: Agreed upon 2nd Tuesday of month beginning June 13th.
- Also agreed to meet one more time this month, Next week to continue getting our feet wet – Check AGENDA.
- “Special Use District”: more discussion with Laison. Should be financially sovent on its own - generally isn't now.

Further Topics Discussed:

7. SYMS WELL TESTING ISSUE, DEPOT HILL property: Toni questioned how that came about, why so much Money (\$70,000), and who was going to do it? Other statements/ questions with Damion included:

Did Syms approach the Town about selling the property of vice/versa?

Any guarantees from them that if we spend that money, wells test good enough for our needs, will they sell? Bill is vehement that they will not!

Was it put out to BID?

Where is the funding coming from?

8. John Andrews 2021 report on **Lavelle Road Pumphouse & Wells 2 & 2A (NOT 4 & 4A)**: Aside from the nearly ¼ Million Dollar estimate to replace the existing Pumphouse, there seems to be some confusion about the lifespans & Outputs of the remaining 4 Wells servicing the District.

For the record, the latest tested outputs of the 4 wells are:

Wells 2 & 2A, Lavelle Road ; 36 gpm & 44 gpm respectively, total of 80 gpm!

Remaining Wells (originally 4 I believe, #3-6) at Depot Hill Site are putting out 18 gpm for Well 5, & 32 gpm for Well 6 – Total of 50 gpm.

Lavelle Rd. Puts out over 62% of our supply. Well #5 is to be/being fracked to increase output!

9. LEAD LINE SURVEY, 2022 – Now: Federally mandated, possible funding for Project (nearly \$450,000 JUST FOR THE SURVEY) is ARPA Block Grant – but Board considering half of it for affordable housing...leaving just \$200,000???

No mention so far of actual replacement cost estimates, of how to fund it!

10. Last item discussed briefly was County Water & Wastewater Commission taking over our District...Is it legal, is it possible, do they have to, and is it desirable to have them do so?

7 P.M. -- Toni motioned to Adjourn, Katie seconded, all 3 present voted Yes.

Minutes Approved June 13, 2021 Unanimous Vote