

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 6, 2020

Pledge of Allegiance.

The regular meeting of the Landis Sewerage Authority was called to order by Chairman Reuben at 6:00 p.m. The following members were present at roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben were present.

The proper notice was given to all members in accordance with the by-laws.

Chairman Reuben stated that public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, has been given in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice in the lobby entrance of the Authority.
2. Hand delivering notices to the offices of the Daily Journal and The Press.
3. Filing written notices in the offices of the Authority and City Clerk.

Also present: Dennis W. Palmer	Executive Director/Chief Engineer
Anthony Tobolski	Field Engineer
A. Steven Fabietti	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Assistant

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Villar that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 16, 2019 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

The Chairman asked if there were any general public comments or comments on the proposed Resolutions. There were none.

Resolutions:

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 - 1, “Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the Revenue Fund Revolving Payroll Account.... \$106,716.95”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 - 2, “Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the Revenue Fund Bills....

\$419,531.26”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 – 3, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing the Executive Director to execute change order #1 in the amount of \$3,283.12 for Chimes Terrace East and West Crescent Drive in Cumberland county under contract for trench restoration...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2020 – 4, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage authority authorizing a contract for an Employee Assistant Program for substance abuse and personal matters with Southwest Council, Inc...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted “yes”.

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that the last item is required by Federal Law for CDL drivers. It is also for employees if they need to talk about financial issues or anything else.

We received good hauler fees again last month and we also got out corn payment which you saw in your packages. I’ve been invited to come to City Council workshop on the 21<sup>st</sup>. They have invited us and the Housing Authority because under one of the state’s best new practices that towns have an interview and a dialogue at council workshop meetings with any Authority or agency. We’ll talk about some of the projects we have coming up.

Dennis also stated that the HomeServe commission was modest but continues to be a good one. We took action on the change order which had a credit for some of the materials that weren’t used and extra material was needed for the paving process that we had on Chimes Terrace.

Today we signed the contract with the SPCA. We’re not sure what caused the delay; maybe some people were away because they have to have the principal sign it but nevertheless it has been signed and they are getting their approvals for their shop drawings and the equipment they will be buying.

The physicals are scheduled and we also have a meeting later this week. Aunt Kitty’s wants to come in and talk about their bill. They said they want to talk about usage and surcharges. Steve and I will be going to the Planning Board this week. Steve stated he will know tomorrow where we are on the agenda.

This week also the east aeration basin comes on line which is the second half of the plant. It will be miserable for the guys. They go in with hip boots and check for any leaks and if

there is one, you don't turn off the air so it doesn't go into the piping. Meanwhile it sprays all over. It's cold in October so you can imagine how cold it will be on Wednesday.

Field Engineer: No Report

Solicitor:

Steve Fabietti stated that we will be at Planning Board on the Brewster Road Pump Station this Wednesday and we are looking at the impact of the new State regulation concerning employee benefits.

Dennis stated that if you have more than 20 employees you have to provide a pre-tax benefit to your employees by March 1<sup>st</sup> of a fair amount of money for parking, to take mass transit, bus or train or carpool. It doesn't affect any of us but if you don't have a program established you can be fined so much per day. We currently have a cafeteria plan that takes pre-tax dollars in for either health benefits or our pension. Eventually we will pass a resolution saying we will use that same cafeteria plan should we have an employee who takes mass transit. We don't have that but in Vineland you have the transportation center downtown. Some of the places in the industrial park they have van pools that go from there to the factory and this would be included. It does apply even though we're in a suburban area away from the main cities. You have to have or you will get a penalty and we want to make sure we have it for whatever audit process kicks in.

Steve Fabietti stated that there are exceptions for collective bargaining agreements. Dennis stated that if someone came in from downtown, they could be taking a bus or a taxi.

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant:

Dennis stated that there isn't much on engineering and plant but we are working on the Utopia area request. I had to bounce it off Bob Brewer, the county planner; do we go through them or do we write directly to DEP? We got the answer so I have to send something up to DEP for those folks. Meanwhile after having a meeting in City Hall, we thought it would be a good idea to have a town meeting for the people that live out there. We would have it at City Hall to discuss this is where we think costs will be; this is what the process is; it's time to get through DEP. This one will be totally different than the

others because all of the ones in the past were gravity systems. This is a pump system. Under the gravity system, if it goes by your house, everyone pays the assessment. If you have a gravity system, we also send you a sewer bill after 90 days. Our own policy says that if you have to pump to get into the system, you don't. We'll run the line down the street, we'll run a line to the curb, everyone pays the assessment for that, but if you want sewer you are going to have to buy the pumping station which is another \$7,000 or so. We just want to go through the process to let everyone know what is out there and where the costs will be. It may be a thought for us to purchase, maybe in advance for a ball park price as to how many people are out there. There may be a dozen or two people which may help with an economy of scale that helps the neighborhood and we get reimbursed through payments. It is going to be a little different than the others.

Tom Merighi asked if each property had a pumping station? Dennis answered yes. It's a large barrel and about 36 inches around. We have other neighborhoods that have it already. We have some individual ones around. DEP was concerned about 10 or 12 years ago about who maintain them. The agreement was that LSA would maintain them. If we do, the homeowners get the higher cost on their user fee because we know that these stations need to be cleaned with the factor truck every few years, there's a pressure controller that tends to go; so we put together maintenance costs for over ten years for those users so we're covered and kept whole.

Tom asked if had a manhole on the top and Dennis stated it looked like a lid. We'll pump it out, if the pump goes bad our guys will pull it out, repair it and we'll have spares here so we can get people immediately back in service. The pressure switch seems to go the most.

Budget/Finance: No Report

Human Resources:

Dennis stated that it's just the item we spoke of with Steve under the new state law.

Public Relations:

Dennis reported that he will speaking to a group in a couple of weeks which is a local environmental group. They are from Vineland and meeting at Adelphia. Also, the Bridgeton Chamber wants me to come to a luncheon and speak about legislation.

Insurance Committee: No Report

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis stated that the new meat processing facility on Garden Road is still in the process of closing on the land and waiting for their DEP permit. They don't want to pay their connection fee until they have the DEP permit in hand. It's understandable. The last time I spoke with their solicitor or council, they also had not totally closed on the property so

they will be asking for a 45-day extension. The time will be a little odd because it will be about 5 days late so I'm going to ask them for a letter from the owner or council and ask for the extension. We'll put it on our agenda and grant another 45 days. Hopefully that will be enough time that they will have their permit in hand and closing on the property. We've done a few in the past where we had some projects that due to funding such as federal funding and we have done a couple of leap frogs for the 45 days because that is our normal window for connection fees.

Joe Reuben asked if South Jersey Glass was finished? Anthony stated that they have to finish the inside of the manhole in the street and they pressure tested the force main so they ran it all the way down. All they have to do is the start up at the building for their pump. They are almost done.

Dennis stated that it would be the same case for any homeowner that they would have to buy their own pumping station and pump in as well. Anthony stated they should have jumped on it when he offered. Joe Reuben asked if the line would be under pressure and Dennis answered yes. If the pump goes off there's no pressure. E-1's that we use are progressive cavity pumps so they can generate 40-50 PSI if not higher. Multiple pumps can come on at the same time and they can still pump into the system. They also have a program than when 40 homes, no more than 8 or 10 come on exactly the same time. It's a probability type of thing.

Joe Reuben asked if it would run to the south side of Butler and does it cross over to the north side? Anthony stated it crosses in the middle of the street right in front of our pump station on Butler right before the auto body place. Dennis stated our station is kind of behind it.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:16 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Barse, Merighi, Villar, Errickson and Reuben voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

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CARLOS VILLAR, Secretary