

“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 8:30 A.M. on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 in the Council Chambers in Grand Haven City Hall located at 519 Washington St. Grand Haven, Michigan 49417

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday August 17, 2022

8:30 A.M.

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Chairperson Christine Burns

2. **Roll Call:**

Chairperson Christine Burns	Village of Spring Lake
Ashley Latsch	City of Grand Haven
Treasurer Craig Bessinger	City of Ferrysburg
Patrick Staskiewicz	Ottawa County Road Commission
Bill Cargo	Grand Haven Township
John Nash	Spring Lake Township

Absent:

Gordon Gallagher	Spring Lake Township
Roger Van Opynen	City of Grand Haven
Steve Namenye	Member at Large

Also Present

Ryan Vredevelde	WWTP Superintendent
Cory VanOeveren	WWTP Environmental Compliance Supervisor
Alando Chappell	Grand Haven Township

3. **Approval of the minutes of the May 18, 2022 Sewer Authority Board meeting**

Motion by Cargo and seconded by Tepastte

Motion carries

4. **No public comment**

5. Financial Report

Superintendent Vredevelde briefly discussed the current cash balances the Authority has and that we are still early in new fiscal year so no major expenses or maintenance has occurred that has impacted the budget

6. Superintendent's Report

June hexachlorobenzene detection, state has been notified and new pollutant minimization program has been implemented

2018 biosolids report – exceedance of zinc and nickel and notice was given from EGLE with a Communication Compliance (CC) letter.

Grand Haven Force main inspection showed no noticeable corrosion of the external steel.

Vacancy in our maintenance supervisor position – Crew leader has been established to help cover day to day maintenance

P&N submitted proposals for engineering, bidding assistance, and construction services for aeration baffle walls, and brick veneer for old headworks building.

East end park – Party in the park was a success, around 350-400 people attended. Additional funds will be raised through grants and further donations to accomplish fundraising goal for restoration of the basketball court on SA property

7. Lift Station 19 Flow Allocations – Village of Spring Lake & Spring Lake Twp.

Pat Staskiewicz provided a Memo regarding flow meter corrections between Village of Spring Lake and Spring Lake Township that will now be handled by the Sewer Authority and reported on monthly flow reports.

8. Staffing Restructure

Memo provided by Superintendent of WWTP explaining the proposed restructure of plant staffing

Due to vacancy in Maintenance Supervisor position we would like to remove that position and open a crew leader position instead.

Restructure does not need approval of the board – position is already in the union contract so restructure acceptable

9. General Business.

A. Member at Large Appointment

Steve Namenye's two year term as member at large is due to expire on August, 19. Steve's expressed his interest in serving another term.

Motion by member Cargo to appoint Steve Namenye for another 2 year term,
Seconded by Tepastte, motion carries

B. Appointment of Vice-Chairperson

The board may now consider to appoint a replacement for the vacant vice-chairperson position

Nomination for Gallagher by Burns

Motion by Cargo

Support - Tepastte

All support

Gallagher is new vice-chairperson

C. CWSRF – Intent to Apply

We have had talks with P&N about the process of applying

Motion – Pat S.

Support – Bessinger

All support – Motion carries

D. Annual Evaluation of Plant Superintendent

The Sewer Authority's Executive Committee met with the WWTP Superintendent to evaluate this past year's performance.

Approval of Ryan's pay to be increased to Job Wage from Step 4

Motion – Cargo

Support – Tepastte

All support – Motion carries

E. MERS Contributions – Plant Management

Asking to reduce employee contribution from 17%

Cargo – Nonunion and union have the same benefit so it is isn't fair to reduce for two people and not the entire plant staff

Ashley in agreeance with Cargo

Tepastte would like to defer until the city of GH figures out their next steps

Burns – table this discussion until after the City of GH knows future

F. Retention Bonus

Memo provided by Plant Superintendent explaining a proposed retention bonus

Many municipalities have given large raises and/or annual bonuses due to inflation. We feel that a 3% bonus is fair.

Cargo – this was meant to be only a bonus for the non-union employees because the union has already negotiated their contract and benefit. We don't have the authority to give collective bargaining members bonuses.

Motion by Cargo that the non-union employees receive a 3% wage increase in addition to the 3.3% COLA effective July 1st.

Support by Tepastte

All support – Motion carries

10. Board Member Comments.

John Nash – Feels that offering wages to specific groups can create resentment between the parties

11. Announcement of next Sewer Authority Meeting: November 16, 2022

12. Adjournment. 9:21 a.m.

Sewer Authority Members:

Christine Burns, Chairperson
City of Grand Haven Appointee
Craig Bessinger, Treasurer
Steve Namenye
Gordon Gallagher
Patrick Staskiewicz
Bill Cargo
Joel Tepastte
Roger Van Opynen

Alternate Members:

Derek Gajdos
Matt Schindlbeck

John Nash
Joe Wallace
Alando Chappell

Consultants:

Matt VanHoef

Others:

Grand Haven Tribune
Catherine McNally
Kelly Beattie

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