

VEAZIE SEWER DISTRICT

34 HOBSON AVENUE, VEAZIE, MAINE 04401



PHONE 942-1536 FAX 942-0011

MINUTES

March 18, 2025 @ 5:30 PM

- Call to Order
Rob called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Those present were Chairman Rob Tomilson, Clerk Matthew Miller, Treasurer Anthony Michaud, Superintendent Chuck Applebee, Office Manager, Barbara Kershner, Jordan Holmes guest from Vortex, and members of the public.
- Consideration of Agenda – Accepted as is
- Approval of **February 18, 2025**, Meeting Minutes
Matt motioned to approve meeting minutes as presented, Tony seconded, all those in favor – approved 3-0.
- Comments from the Public
 - *Cost saving suggestions on district operations*
 - *Vortex notification concerns, submitted Quote for payment due to damaged lawn by Vortex ACTION ITEM – quote to Board to review; Barbara to make copies for next meeting?*
- AP Warrant
Review and sign the AP Warrant for March 18, 2025.

Matt motioned to transfer the grant funds for the sewer camera in the amount of \$50,000 from the CR Business 0166 account into the CR ICS 0166 account at Katahdin Trust Company allowing the grant funds to be tracked separate from any other funds. Tony seconded. All those in favor 3-0. Motion passes.

Matt motioned to transfer \$204,678.51 from the CR ICS 0166 account into the CR Business 0166 account at Katahdin Trust Company, which is an account that is accessible to the Office Manager for ongoing transfers authorized by the Board. Tony seconded. All those in favor 3-0. Motion passes.

Matt motioned to transfer the \$100,000 2024 Town of Veazie Assessment fee from the Operating 0139 account into the CR Business 0166 account then back into the Operating 0139 to cover the January Warrant expenses including Capital expenses totaling \$76,125.50 and for an Eaton Peabody legal invoice in the amount of \$17,181; a Hopkins Paving invoice for \$24,044.50; and a Lou Silver invoice regarding the installation of the pump station at 1348 State St for \$34,900. Tony seconded. All those in favor 3-0. Motion passes.

Matt motioned to transfer \$15,000 from the CR Business 0166 account into the Operating 0139 account at Katahdin Trust Company to cover the Warrant expenses. Tony seconded. All those in favor 3-0. Motion passes.

- Office Manager's Report – see report
 - Town Assessment letter – ACTION ITEM - Barbara to update and call Tony to sign-off, find out due date
 - ACTION ITEM: Connect with HMV regarding transfer wording update - \$10,000 does not really need to be recorded. Most important thing is to note in minutes and QuickBooks.
 - Bank account ACTION ITEM – Barbara to update account titles as noted below:

OLD Name	AS OF MARCH MTG "NEW NAMES"↓↓
Operating - Checking	"Operating"
ICS CR x0166	"Capital Reserve"
ICS CR 99xx0166	"Grant Fund"
ICS DR x2172	"Debt Reserve"
ICS DR 99xx2172	"Debt Reserve ICS"
ICS Desludge Xxxx7302	"Desludge"
ICS Desludge 99xxxx7302	"Desludge ICS"

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- Treasurer's Report
 - Profit and Loss Statement – update utilities 5610 to make sure the expense is charged to a budgeted line-item going forward **ACTION ITEM - Barbara**
 - FY25/26 Draft Budget - Board will review and discuss it at the April meeting.
 - Katahdin Accounts - Update labels on accounts to read “Operating”, “Capital Reserve”, “Grant Fund”, “Debt Reserve” and “Desludge” with Barbara to move within accounts as deemed necessary based on Board motions and approvals
- Operations Report – *see report*
 - Carmel electric to install auto switch in Mid-March
 - Two rain events – pumped first one, but not second rain event which had no overflow. Comments made by Karen Walker that there was heavy flow of water from other trailers but none from their area. Karen asked about pictures of yesterday's storm, ie rain event #2, Chuck had not gotten to them yet. Karen shared pictures/video she had taken. Acknowledged significant difference in flow since an unknown entity did work on manhole #2.
 - **ACTION ITEM – Chuck to provide pictures to be loaded to a flash drive and Barbara will call Karen when ready**
- New Business
- Old Business
 - Rate Sewer Rates Discussion – Craig Costello, CPA, CGMA - Brantner, Thibodeau & Associates – *agenda item moved to April meeting*
 - HMV Year end 2023/2024 Audit Agreement letter and Risk Questionnaire – *Audit estimates sought - due to timeliness and availability of Audit accountants, the Board decided to move forward with HMV with notation of \$10,000 limit. Suggested putting next year out to bid. ACTION ITEM – Chuck to sign off on Agreement with notation of limit, Barbara to update HMV. Audit for 2024/2025 will be put out to bid.*

Matt motioned to cap auditors at \$10,000, any more than that would need Board approval. Chuck, as Interim Superintendent will sign. Tony seconded. All those in favor 3-0 - approved.

- PO Process – draft discussed with changes to be made and signed off at next meeting – **ACTION ITEM - Barbara to update \$25,000 for formal and \$2,500 for informal quote, place limit on Office Manager as Purchasing Agent for office supplies, adding Superintendent's approval needed for anything above \$500.**
- Sewer Rules and Regulation Document Update – *agenda item moved to April meeting*
- Mutton Lane Report

Chuck provided a handout and presented a PowerPoint presentation of the Vortex report, prepared by Jordan Holmes, the Project Manager from Vortex, who was also present at this meeting.

Quote reviewed

 - *Quote includes work at manhole #10 to end of the line including to the Janicki property at the end of the wastewater mains and laterals*
 - *House lateral at 1002 has a total of four pipes connecting to it. This will need to be further investigated with dye and a push camera then excavation will be needed to separate any ground/storm water from the sanitary sewer. The current map and pricing do not include investigating and separating the four lines connecting at the service lateral. Chuck will get an estimate and add to the overall pricing document.*
 - *Current Estimate #1 \$122,925 -point repair on sewer mains estimates include spray lining all manholes and repairs defects in all home with the exception of 1002 Mutton Lane sewer lateral separation*
 - *Current Estimate #2 \$209,685 –full repair, lining sewer all sewer mains, installing two new manholes and lateral work with the exception of lateral separation at 1002 Mutton Lane*
- *Jordan from Vortex review*
 - *Cameraed manhole #2 upstream to dead-end, past Karen's to stub cap*
 - *Indicates signs of ground water coming through – pictures reviewed, noted large buildup of grit at the dead-end sewer main near 1002 Mutton Lane*
 - *A new manhole will be needed at the sewer main serving home 1002 Mutton Lane,*
 - *Because of the dead-end sewer main there is only one way in – two entry points are required*

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- Noticeable grit, roots getting through Mutton Lane sewer – Tony noted, and Jordan agreed, that this is not uncommon. Queried whether, all the other lines in Veazie would have to be reviewed as well if this is not uncommon. – Jordan said that is what his company does is offers product that keeps out penetration from sewer system and structural integrity.
- Truss-pipe currently in place
- Questioned if you could abandon the 150' of pipe if there is nothing on the back side answer is yes abandoned after the home at 1002 Mutton Lane with a new manhole is recommended
- Three other lines tie into service that still needs to be resolved will be added to the list of defects and an estimated cost will be added
- Tony questioned the lower quote initially distributed to trustees by Superintendent to Board with revised quote being notably higher – Rob explained that additional items were needed to have a complete picture of all the identified defects and associated costs for repair
- Public discussion -
 - Truss-Pipe – it was claimed that the original owner who installed the sewer obtained the pipe from Sewer District
 - It was claimed that the Trailer Park should be lead. Under binding agreement, the Trailer Park, Mutton Lane and Sewer District should be able to work this out – and the Trailer Park should be taking lead and Mutton Lane would be held to their percentage as noted, ie . 1.6 – 1.8 %, but less than 2%. – Board noted that Eaton and Peabody, our attorney has reviewed the deeds and is familiar with the content in the deeds. Karen feels the deeds exempt the Mutton Lane owners for repairs. **ACTION ITEM – Karen will bring documentation**
 - Practical issues – abandon sewer or replace? If abandoned, will have to fill the old 8-inch sewer with flowable fill, etc
 - Legal issues – District gave all the options to the Mutton Lane owners -all Mutton Lane owners had to agree; at least one Mutton Lane resident said no, why in court system, Trailer Park has been notified. Matter is in the attorney's hands now.
 - Fear of future town impact with continued problems, thousands of dollars in attorney fees, time, potential future review of town system for comparisons
 - Brescia sewer system, type of infrastructure manhole construction
 - Recommendation by Vortex is to spray line manholes and line sewer mains to eliminate infiltration
 - Negative side waterproofing manholes 25 years
 - , UV line 50 years
 - Multiple estimates will be required
 - All estimates provided to attendees 1002 service lateral investigation and separation will be added
 - **ACTION ITEM – Vortex to provide info on their products**
- Informational
 - Facility Inspection Report – ie Wastewater Discharge Permit - **ACTION ITEM – Chuck to did follow up and was told we should see a draft within a couple of months**
- Adjourn

Matt motioned to adjourn, Rob seconded, all in favor. Motion passes, meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Next meeting April 15, 2025 at 5:30pm