

## WATER BOARD MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Oliver Springs Water Board was called to order by Chairman Chris Hepler on January 3, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. All were present except Omer Cox, who had an excused absence.

Motion by Stinnett and second by Walker to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. All voted aye.

### COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER:

- A. All of the repair parts for the fire hydrants have been received and repairs will begin as weather and time permits.
- B. Mrs. Treece met with the State, the Town's engineers, and Grant Administrator Evan Sanders regarding the water system improvement grant. The staff will begin the investigation phase of the grant project in mid-January 2013. The State will advise if it is going to allow the Town to make repairs to the water line at Poplar Creek during the investigation phase due to the fact that the Town will experience more water line issues if the water line is repaired later in the project and after the leak detection phase has been completed. Mrs. Treece will advise as soon as she has information.
- C. The area has received sufficient rainfall in the past two weeks wherein Bacon Springs is producing adequate water, so the Town is no longer purchasing water.
- D. The Water Department has received new pipe wrenches purchased from the sale of scrap metal. The employees have full access to all of the tools in the new tool room.
- E. As the Water Board members have had time to review the needed repairs and estimated costs at both the water and sewer plant, Mrs. Treece requested the water board authorize her to obtain loan or funding quotes. Once this has been done, the cost can then be budgeted. Mrs. Treece suggested that TML be contacted as to possible funding options. Water Board Secretary Van Hook suggested that it may be possible to issue tax free municipal bonds through an underwriting agency in order to fund these repairs. After a cost-benefit analysis, it may be better to issue a large amount of municipal bonds in order not only to pay for the repairs, but also to refinance existing debt, if a more favorable interest rate and other terms can be obtained at this time. A state agency in Nashville also has funding available at favorable terms for water, sewer, and infrastructure improvements. After further discussion, the Chairman instructed Mrs. Treece to investigate possible funding options.

### COMMENTS FROM WATER BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Walker asked and Mrs. Treece advised that the pictures that were provided to each Water Board member were of a grease blockage at a manhole at or near a local Mexican restaurant. As shown in the pictures, the grease buildup was rather large. After an audit of the restaurant, it was determined that the restaurant had a grease tank but was not using the tank. It is Mrs. Treece's understanding that the restaurant is now using the tank. Grease buildup from restaurants and even homes can line the inside of the sewer pipe, resulting in decreased flow and a greater potential for blockage. Mrs. Treece also advised that the local funeral home in that area was conducting embalming procedures and discharging the embalming chemicals into the sewer system. There was no

backflow preventer at that location. Mrs. Treece will be meeting with the owners of the funeral home and with state officials to determine what violations are occurring and how the violations may be resolved.

Mrs. Treece presented an ordinance to amend Title 18 of the Oliver Springs Municipal Code by adding a new chapter to regulate animal and vegetable fats, oils, and grease. After discussion, motion by Craze and second by Walker to pass Ordinance No. 2013-04-01, regulating animal and vegetable fats, oils, and grease. All voted aye.

Mr. Holland asked and Mrs. Treece advised that the restaurant had a grease trap but had not been using it. However, the restaurant is now using the grease trap.

#### **COMMENTS FROM WATER AND SEWER CUSTOMERS:**

Mr. Gene Lackey spoke on behalf of Green Acres Mobile Home Park and gave a progress report as to the sewer line work at the park as it relates to the improvement of the sewer lines in the area arising out of the annexation by the Town of the Green Acres Mobile Home Park and the surrounding area. Mr. Lackey advised that the power was connected to the sewer lift station and requested permission to test the pump station by pumping water out of Poplar Creek into the lift station in order to determine if it is working properly. Mr. Lackey also requested instruction and guidance as to the smoke test which must be performed on the sewer line. After discussion, originally it was thought that the Town and its water department employees could perform the smoke test in an inexpensive fashion. However, because of problems inherent with the mobile home sewer line connections and other difficulties, the Town does not have the equipment and resources to perform the smoke test, and it may have to be performed by an independent contractor at a greater expense. Mr. Lackey advised that Green Acres Trailer Park has spent \$200,617.20 to date for the pumping station, sewer pipe, rock, engineering, electrical, concrete, equipment, and contractor costs for the construction of the pumping station, manholes, and several sewer lines. Mr. Lackey hoped that it would be possible for the sewer line system to be tested, approved, and accepted by the Water Department without further and major expense. Mr. Lackey suggested that as an alternative to the smoke test, an engineer may be able to determine whether or not the sewer line is tight based upon calculations of water consumption by water meter readings as compared to the volume of liquid pumped by the sewer pump station. Although this mathematical method is not as accurate and reliable as a smoke test, it could be considered as an option. After further and extensive discussion, the Chairman instructed Mrs. Treece to follow up with her communications to state officials and the officials of Green Acres Trailer Park in order to determine the exact steps and costs needed to test the sewer line in anticipation of it being accepted by the Town. The Chairman further instructed Mrs. Treece to check with the sewer department employee as to whether or not there would be complications for the testing of the lift station. If there are no complications, then the Chairman authorized the test to be completed.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

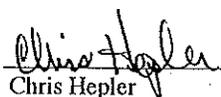
None.

With no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was,  
upon motion duly made and seconded and unanimously passed, adjourned at 7:15  
p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joseph M. Van Hook  
Water Board Secretary

APPROVED:

  
Chris Hepler  
Water Board Chairman

01-03-2013 WB