

**Town of Preston
105 Back Landing Road
Regular Meeting 7pm.
March 1, 2021**

Attendees: Doug Vanderveer, Robert Stacey , Nelson Anderson, Savannah Winston, Gary Waltemeyer, Amber Korell, Dale Whitley

Public Attendance: Town Attorney Walt Palmer, Lt. Nepert

The regular meeting was called to order by Commissioner Doug VanDerveer at 7:00 p.m.

Comm. Waltemeyer made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented and was seconded by Comm. Stacey and unanimously approved.

Police Report: for Feb. 2021

115 hours assigned with a total of 23 assignments

- 171 Calls for service
- 1 Reports taken
- 46 Traffic Stops
- 81 Traffic Violations
- 0 Arrest

Public Works Report -Dale Whitley

-pumped 1,262,700 gallons of water

-discharged 7,894,145 gallons of wastewater

-installed the new Godwin pump and it is in service for the foreseeable future. We have serviced it one time so far.

-scraped and graded railroad ave 3 times.

-worked on the Fooks Ave pump station several times this month but the inflow is making repairs and cleaning difficult.

-cleared out the sewer plant so a crew could put sealant on the floors.

-were able to get the lime feed working and put in service but it only lasted a few hours and it has gone into a start fault again.

-put out late notices for water bills.

-removed the flagpole in front of town hall so we could repair the pulley for the halyard and now we can raise and lower the flags when needed. We also put new flags up.

-spent many days cleaning bursting and lancing the sand filters to keep them working enough to handle the high flows.

-put the tractor in the shop after the seal on the steering cylinder started leaking very badly.

Administrative Report – Amber Korell

-Responded to phone/email & visitor inquiries

-Sent out code violation letters for David George

-Worked with GMB, AECOM, and Lawyers regarding WWTP

-Pay Request #24 was submitted to MDE for reimb.

- Attended the WWTP progress meeting #26
- We Approved and Issued building permits with MDIA
- We Approved and Issued Business Licenses
- Worked on State Police Aid Grant- GOCCP
- Met with Contractors to get quotes on re-mulching the playground with the remaining Park Grant money
- Corresponded with several colleagues on the WWTP Maintenance Contract RFP process to help get an idea as we move forward.
- Town Hall helped the TGM Group to finish out our 2020 audit
- Processed and sent out past due W/S notices
- Created and issued payment plans for the water bills to residents whom requested/needed them
- Starting Budget Prep. for the new FY 21-22

Planning and Zoning – No Report

WWTP February 1 , Update:

- JCC has been working on completing the punch list and has completed the majority of the items at this point.
- JCC has removed their diesel bypass pump, and Dale is currently utilizing the Town’s purchased diesel bypass pump that was included in Change Order No. 6.
- JCC has reinstalled the influent flow meter, which has allowed us to quantify how high the influent flows to the facility actually are. In the past few days, the WWTP has seen average daily flows of over 500,000 gallons per day which is roughly 4.3 times higher than the design average daily flow rate of the new WWTP. As a result, most of the influent flow from the Town is being bypassed to the existing lagoon as the new facility is not capable of hydraulically handling that much flow. It should also be noted that, based on influent wastewater samples and lab results, a significant portion of the influent flow can be attributed to groundwater infiltration into the collection system. This groundwater flow to the plant not only causes hydraulic issues at the facility, but significantly slows the acclimation process.
- JCC’s temporary, electric bypass pumps are still installed, and are currently being used to bypass lagoon water, in an effort to maintain level in the existing lagoon.
- The facility is currently going through acclimation as the plant is receiving raw wastewater from the Town. Acclimation has still been slow, and will improve as more of the influent flow is sent through the plant.
- The operational issues with the Denitrification Filter have continued. Parts are currently being fabricated by the filter vendor and are scheduled for delivery in the beginning of March.
- JCC has submitted a draft payment application #25 that has been reviewed by GMB, and that will be forwarded to the Town once hard copies are received. This payment application is in the amount of roughly \$500k, and includes the release of a majority of the retainage as outlined in the agreement, after substantial completion. The retainage remaining is the valued amount of the Punch List work that is not yet finished.

Ordinances/Resolutions:

2021-P-1: Endometriosis Awareness Month Proclamation

Guest Speaker Shannon Hannawald read the following Proclamation:

“WHEREAS, *an estimated 200 hundred million people worldwide have Endometriosis—1 in every 10 women have endometriosis—a disease for which there is no known cure; and*

WHEREAS, *Endometriosis is a chronic illness—increasing at epidemic rates—which causes fatigue, infertility, painful menstrual cycles, heavy bleeding, painful intercourse, lower back pain, intestinal issues and debilitating pain in women of all ages and races; and*

WHEREAS, *Endometriosis is a thickening of the lining of the uterus; it is a hormonal and immune disease; it can be found on the ovaries, fallopian tubes, ligaments supporting the uterus, other areas of the pelvic cavity and most recently found on the brain and lungs; and*

WHEREAS, *Endometriosis can only be diagnosed through laparoscopic surgery; there is no cure for Endometriosis only treatment; and*

WHEREAS, *the cause of Endometriosis is not known but is thought to be hereditary; and*

WHEREAS, *patients with this illness often must learn to live with widespread pain throughout their bodies; extreme fatigue; infertility; emotional and mental issues; other auto immune disorders; and*

WHEREAS, *it often takes an average of 10 years to receive a diagnosis of Endometriosis, and medical professionals frequently are inadequately educated on the diagnosis and treatment of Endometriosis; and*

WHEREAS, *it is necessary that we recognize the lack of medical research, education and awareness of a disease that affects so many women in our community; and*

WHEREAS, *Endometriosis is present in children as young as 8 and young women which poses unique challenges for this population who suffer not only from the symptoms of this illness, but also from the lack of understanding and lack of social acceptance; and*

WHEREAS, *people with Endometriosis face discrimination from employers, friends, family, and doctors while dealing with the ongoing stress of living with an unpredictable disease and an uncertain future; and*

WHEREAS, *employers should support their employees with Endometriosis by making adaptations to the work environment, so that people with Endometriosis can continue to function at work and not be forced to file for disability; and*

WHEREAS, *the Endometriosis Association is a nonprofit charitable organization that was founded in 1980 with the intent of bringing awareness to this underserved and misunderstood population of women; and*

WHEREAS, *the Endometriosis Association, local support group Endo Warriors of the Eastern Shore, and other groups around our Country have joined together to promote Endometriosis awareness and support—including improved education, diagnosis, research and treatment; and*

WHEREAS, *understanding this illness will help guarantee hope for a better future for people with Endometriosis;*

NOW THEREFORE, *I, do hereby proclaim March as “**Endometriosis Awareness Month**”*
On behalf of the Preston Town Council with this proclamation we declare the month of March
Endometriosis Awareness Month

New Business:

-A motion was made by Comm. Waltemeyer to accept the bills as presented for **FEB 2021**. Comm. Stacey seconded the motion, all approved.

-Comm. Winston made a motion to adopt 2021-P-1 Endometriosis Awareness Month Proclamation; Comm. Stacey seconded the motion. All approved.

-Town of Preston introduced Miss Hannah Wilkins whom is currently enrolled in an internship with Town Hall. Hannah is currently enrolled in Chesapeake College Studying Business Management; she will be assisting us in our daily functions on Thursday and Fridays ending in May. We are please to have her as part of the Preston Team.

-Comm. Nelson made a motion to approve the GMB Amendment #6 in the amount of \$28,240.00; Comm. Winston seconded the motion. All approved.

-Comm. Nelson made a motion to approve the Constellation Energy Contract Renewal 2021-2023;Comm. Waltemeyer seconded the motion. All approved.

-Comm. Winston made a motion to approve the Quote for 172 Main Street Boiler from Shorely Comfortable Air in the amount of \$1245.00; Comm. Anderson seconded the motion. All approved.

-Comm. Winston made a motion for adjournment at 7:21 pm, Comm. Nelson seconded the motion. All approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Amber Korell