

**Town of Preston
105 Back Landing Road
Regular Meeting 7pm.
July 12, 2021**

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

Public Attendance: Town Attorney Walt Palmer, Lt. Nepert, Steven Hildenbrand

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. Anderson and unanimously approved.

Police Report: for June 2021

130 hours assigned with a total of 23 assignments

- 179 Calls for service
- 4 Reports taken
- 50 Traffic Stops
- 68 Traffic Violations
- 1 Arrest

Public Works Report -Dale Whitley

-pumped 9,477,200 gallons of water. 8,741,200 gallons were used between June 10th and June 30th and discharged 3,231,502 gallons of wastewater.

-scraped and graded Railroad Ave.

-replaced the blades and scalp rollers on the town mower.

-painted the curb in front of town hall and also pressure washed the sidewalk out front.

-removed and repositioned the plug valve at the sewer plant so now we can waste activated sludge the way it is intended to be wasted. This valve was never installed properly and has not worked until June 9th. The contractor's position was that it needed an air relief valve. We put in a change order and had one installed, but it was never tested. When we tried to use it, it still didn't work. No one would take responsibility for the improper installation, so we had to repair it ourselves.

-also replaced the air compressor that was broken. We did it ourselves because the company wasn't responding to our request for warranty service. They did send us a replacement, so we installed it.

-read all the meters in town.

-took the towns water tower out of service for maintenance. This means we will be pumping water directly into the towns water system and disposing of the excess water with two pressure relief valves that we installed on two different hydrants. One on Hughlett St. and one on Chambers St. These have required constant monitoring. We hope to be back online by the middle of July.

-cut grass and sprayed weeds all month.

Administrative Report – Amber Korell

- Worked with GMB, AECOM, MDE and Mr. Goldberg on our WWTP
- Water Tower Rehab has been ongoing I have stayed in touch with our company, all work is completed except one of the safety cables has yet to come in, once it's in they will be back out to install.
- Accompanied MDE compliance inspector Michelle Burrows on a construction inspection at our WWTP, Council was forwarded the inspection report.
- Attended our Pre-Bid meeting and WWTP tour with Scott from GMB on June 23
- Processed 4th quarter W/S bills, enclosed in this quarters billing residents will find a copy of our 2020 CCR Report along with our Water Violation from MDE which has been corrected.
- Worked on Budget FY21-22, and began collecting information requested by our Auditors for last fiscal year.
- I switched over the Town Phone system to Verizon One Talk, which will save us \$150.00 a month in telephone charges. Sandy and Dale both have a dedicated desktop phone plugged into their computer tower and I will be using my cellphone. The Verizon One Talk app allows me to use my cell phone as mine/and the Towns phone when needed.
- Sandy has been diligently working on getting quotes for the multiple jobs we are planning for the next fiscal year. By next meeting we hope to have our Chambers Street Sidewalk rehab and Preston Road Patch quotes to review.
- We have been reaching out to contractors and landscapers to quote projects for our new Park Grant Application, due next month. I would like to finish the original plan of the Meditation Garden Memorial Wall, shading with trees and/or canopies, Re-due the trail with a more sustainable material to prevent cracking and some adult bench swings for Concert in the Park Days
- Attended MML in OC June 28th and 29th, I attended Using Grants to Improve Community Infrastructure and Addressing Aging Water and Sewer Infrastructure- Seemed fitting with what we are currently experiencing. Visiting the booths in the Expo I met many people whom I had dealt with before in Greensboro it was great to see old faces as well as meet some new! I talked to multiple vendors about Preston and picked up on a few different ideas for our park improvements. I had a great time networking and learning, thank you to the Commissioners for allowing me to attend and to MML for the First Time Attendee Grant!
- Working with Erin and Matt from Shore Rivers in Easton to apply for GREEN GRANTS for our Park to do the following: plant more trees to the park (around the pavilion, the parking, and other locations); Add in native gardens around the meditation pavilion and other areas; Add a native rain garden to the culvert; Add a bioswale with dams by the wastewater plant to reduce erosion; Add a retention pond with a native garden in the small grass area in front of the main pavilion by the office to help with flooding; Toddler play space/natural play area; Adding interpretive signs to the improved green spaces
- Preston is hosting a Pop- up Vendors Market the THIRD SATURDAY of the month here at James T Wright Park from 10-2, vendor fees will go to the YMCA to continue to offer free community programs/events for the children. This Month July 17th.

Planning and Zoning – no report

WWTP Project Status:

- JCC's punch list work is completed except for close out of E&SC permit and removal of E&SC measures.

- The last AFP which JCC submitted was #29 and covered work thru 5/31/21. Submission of disbursement requests is on-hold as MDE will only process one (1) more disbursement request which includes the final payment request from JCC.
- The warranty matter with the failed filter air compressor has been resolved.
- JCC has submitted several PCOs in May and June, all of these have been denied by GMB. It is anticipated that all of these will be filed as claims with the Town.
- GMB is unable to prepare a balancing change order for the project due to PCO 41 and PCO 35R2. PCO 41 is related to a dispute on the quantity of installed contingent bid items and PCO 35R2 is eligible for MDE funding; however, JCC has tied a time extension to the PCO. Information from JCC for PCO 34 regarding JCC warranty period is outstanding.
- WWTP performance results for the month of June have been favorable and it appears the process is now nitrifying ammonia. Process now needs to be optimized for denitrification so that WWTP can meet MDE's total nitrogen requirements. It will be important to bring on the WWTP contract operator ASAP so that they can assist with operational adjustments to the WWTP.
- MDE has provided indication that it will extend the WWTP start-up deadline (point at which ENR parameters must be met) to October 1, 2021, per the Town's request.

Ordinances/Resolutions: None

New Business:

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

-Comm. Winston made a motion to adopt **Resolution 2021-R-2 TOWN WATER AND SEWER RATES**; Comm. Waltemeyer seconded the motion, all approved.

-Comm. Anderson made a motion to approve Mid Shore Exteriors Park Pavilion Quote in the amount of \$9,790.00+ 109,000 per plywood sheets replaced up to 5 sheets; Comm. Winston seconded the motion. All approved.

- Comm. Anderson made a motion to approve the Callahan Signs Quote in the amount of \$9,720.00; Comm. Winston seconded the motion. All approved.

- Comm. Anderson made a motion to approve the letter drafted by Mr. Goldberg to Deny JCC PCO 37,39,40,41,42 and 43 Request's as suggested by Mr. Goldberg and GMB.

-Comm. Waltemeyer made a motion for adjourn the open session at 7:24 pm, Comm. Winston seconded the motion. All approved.

-Comm. Waltemeyer made a motion to open the closed session at 7:25pm; Comm. Anderson seconded the motion, all approved.

-Comm. Anderson made a motion to close the closed session, open the open session, Comm. Winston seconded the motion all approved. Comm. VanDerveer stated "A personnel issue was discussed in closed session, no action to be taken" Comm. Anderson made a motion to close the open meeting at 7:40 pm; Comm. Waltemeyer seconded the motion, all approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Amber Korell