Warner Village Water District Commissioners At 3:30 P.M. on November 29, 2023 at the Treatment Plant

Present: Shaun Murphy, Dan Lavoie, and Herm Blanchette, Commissioners; Ray Martin, Administrator; and Jim McLaughlin, Clerk. Also, Tim Blagden.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Commissioners' regular meeting held November 8, 2023 were approved by the Commissioners.

Trail Easement

Tim Blagden met with the Commissioners about the District-owned property on the other side of the Warner River where the groundwater injection ponds will be located. Tim said that when the current plan showing the easement car parking area and walkway down to the trail were laid out, the pond locations were further east on the property. Now, however the District may have to move the pond locations further west, thus compromising the walkway as depicted on the plan. All agreed that if the problem of getting DES to accept a letter of accommodation from DOT allowing the ponds to be located nearer to the Interstate ROW cannot be resolved, then be the District's engineer would revise the easement to show a different alignment of the walkway. Ray said he was hopeful a resolution between the two State agencies could be reached that would allow the plan, as approved, to stand.

Administrator's Report

Ray distributed the draft 2024 annual budget to the Commissioners and explained the budget approval process. He will meet with the Town Budget Committee of December 14 for the first review. He then proceeded to review the various sections of the budget. The budget includes a three percent wage increase for the District employees and dental coverage for Chuck and Taylor. Overall, the draft budget is two tenths of a percent lower than 2023.

One item discussed was making major improvements to the McDonalds pump station. Ray said that there will be about \$30,000 available from the surcharge fee by the end of this year that can be used for this work. He will check with Chuck to find out his position on this project.

The Commissioners voted to award the two employees a total of \$1,500 as a year-end bonus in recognition of their efforts.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30. The next meeting will be on December 13, at 3:30 PM.

Recorded by James F. McLaughlin, Clerk