

NEW LONDON-SPRINGFIELD WATER SYSTEM PRECINCT

Budget Hearing continuance February 22, 2023

PRESENT: Kenneth Jacques (Chairman), Rip Cross (Commissioner) by Teams Meeting, John MacKenna (Commissioner), Rob Thorp (Superintendent) and Rhonda L Gauthier (office manager)

Others in attendance: Rich and Karen Epstein and John Ellis

Chairman Jacques opened the Budget Hearing at 12:30 PM.

Jacques informed the public that we do not have the information necessary from the bank, so we are continuing this meeting until February 29, 2024, at 12:45, following the 12:30 PM Bond Hearing.

Jacques explained that since there will not be a payment on the bond in 2024 another warrant article was added for the anticipated principal and interest. If the bond article is not approved, the money will be applied to the cost of the project.

“We are anticipating Sugar River will be helping with a bridge loan until the bond pays out at the end of the summer”, says Jacques.

John Ellis asked why the Commissioners are asking to raise less money in three of the budget lines, Pump and Tank, Payment in lieu of taxes and utilities. Ken answered, the maintenance schedule changes each year for pump and tank; it is like a capital improvement program, whereas there is a long-term plan with a schedule of maintenance/improvements each year on a rotating basis. This includes vertical turbines, cleaning of wells, painting, ladders, etc. The payment in lieu of taxes is for land in Springfield. The Commissioners do not feel that the Precinct should be charged the amount that it is so Ken said he and Rhonda will have a meeting with them to discuss a payment amount. The Utilities went down so we didn't need that much in that budget line.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda L Gauthier