Municipal Authority of Conneaut Lake
Board Meeting
October 9, 2023
Amended November 13, 2023
(Amended italicized)

Members – Carl McLean, Alan Baldarelli, Jim Tigri
Members attending via Conference Call – Mario DeBlasio, Chris Gates
Others – Steve Halmi, Angela Perrine
Absent – Brian Cage, Bob Morrow
Visitors – Lew Walker, manager CLJMA, and Rob and Joyce Brugnoli, borough residents

Carl McLean called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Lew Walker, manager of CLJMA, wanted to come and introduce himself and wanted an update on the proposed property transfer to CLJMA.

Mario DeBlasio requested (to Lew Walker) something in writing from CLJMA stating their position on the proposed property transfer. Lew Walker reviewed that MACL would like CLJMA to take over borough flow, eliminate the pump station, as designed, and come up with a cash option to buy the parcel in question. Mario stated his theory was CLJMA would take over operation of the lift station immediately and CLJMA would take over property "as is where is" and CLJMA would assume all liabilities of the property that are there and would cover any costs of converting the existing pump station to gravity flow. Alan Baldarelli stated MACL already provided CLJMA what MACL's requests were pertaining to the proposed property transfer. Mario DeBlasio told Lew Walker to provide MACL a counter offer in writing. Lew Walker stated he will get back to MACL after CLJMA's next board meeting which is scheduled for November 1, 2023.

Lew Walker left the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Steve Halmi discussed his follow up with DCED regarding the Sixth Street Project. Steve contacted DCED to inquire if there would be an issue with rehabbing the Sixth Street line with cured-in-place liner rather than complete replacement. Steve received an email on September 28, 2023 that stated the email response serves as formal approval to use cured-in-place slip lining method for sanitary sewer rehabilitation along Sixth Street, as appropriate, as this still meets the intent of the project. The approval is not a complete change of scope but merely to use this alternative method in addition to replacement in areas where warranted.

Jim Tigri made a motion to put Sixth Street Project out for bids (cured-in-place methodology). Alan Baldarelli seconded the motion. (No vote called)

Mario DeBlasio made a motion we authorize Steve Halmi to put together a bid project for the full replacement of the Sixth Street line and to send it out to bid. Alan Baldarelli seconded the motion. (Motion carried)

Carl McLean made a motion to approve the CLJMA reconciliation statement as presented by Steve Halmi. Alan Baldarelli seconded the motion. Roll call: unanimous – yea. (Motion carried)

Steve Halmi stated CLJMA would like their auditor to review the reconciliation prior to MACL sending payment of $18,000 to CLJMA.

Bob Morrow presented quotes for brush removal at three separate locations: water tower, sewer plant, and the filter building at Fireman's Beach. The quotes were received from Vivian's Tree Service for the following amounts: water tower $550, sewer plant $1,360 and filter building at Fireman's Beach $350.

Mario DeBlasio made a motion we approve (brush removal) at both the water tower and the filter building. (*Alan Baldarelli questioned if contractors have to have insurance to do work in the borough. Alan stated he remembered when a certain person was going to do demolition work and he did not have insurance nor did he have anything else that would help if there was a problem with the demolish or if there was a problem to the road. Alan stated he is concerned with liability if Vivian's Tree Service doesn't have insurance and someone gets hurt on our property and they don't have the proper insurance we would be responsible. Carl McLean stated we should ask for proof of insurance from any contractor we have and we should find out from Brian if we need to see verification of insurance. Mario DeBlasio agreed he would like to see verification of insurance from any contractor. Alan Baldarelli also asked if there were any other bids for the brush removal. Alan stated he remembered in the past we put it out to bid. Chris Gates questioned since this is a maintenance issue isn't there a dollar amount under which we don't need to get competitive bids. Carl McLean stated we don't need to get competitive bids for this. Alan Baldarelli reiterated he wants to make certain Vivian's Tree Service has insurance before we accept it. Carl McLean stated we wait for Bob Morrow at next month's meeting and we can discuss with him what it cost last time to have this done versus now. Carl said then we can find out if Vivian's Tree Service has insurance, and we can find out from Brian Cagle if we absolutely need to have him have insurance.* Carl McLean suggested we wait to discuss the brush removal with Bob Morrow at the next board meeting). Mario DeBlasio withdrew his motion for the brush removal for the water tower and filter building.

Alan Baldarelli requested resolution authorizing himself and Jim Tigri to apply for a grant for refurbishing of the water tank along with the $100 application fee.

Carl McLean made a motion to put a resolution together to allow Alan Baldarelli and Jim Tigri to prepare this grant and send it off along with the $100 application fee for this project (water tower refurbishing). Chirs Gates seconded the motion. Roll call: unanimous – yea. (Motion carried)

Chris Gates wanted to add a thank you to Alan Baldarelli and Jim Tigri for all their work involved in the grant process.

Visitors, Rob and Joyce Brugnoli, wanted to discuss the draft agreement with Mr. Pelly (Reflections on Conneaut Lake). Mr. and Mrs. Brugnoli stated they would like to look over the draft agreement as they have some issues in question.

Mario DeBlasio mentioned during the discussion of the draft agreement with Reflections on Conneaut Lake that the draft agreement states we would allow up to 20 units (to receive water) without building a well. Alan Baldarelli stated he was opposed to that language from the get-go. Alan added if we sell them water to 10 or 20 homes before we even put new wells in his concern if Mr. Pelly/Reflections on Conneaut Lake goes belly-up, we are going to still be responsible for providing them water. Alan stated he does not want to give them any water until everything is 100% completed with DEP and whomever else. Alan added he wouldn't give them anything that is going to expose us to anything long-term. Alan added if Mr. Pelly pays for everything upfront then he can put in his 20 homes. Mario DeBlasio then questioned Alan saying to then Mr. Pelly would have to wait three or four years before getting water for any of the homes? Alan replied – absolutely.

Rob and Joyce Brugnoli left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Mario DeBlasio made a motion we enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing rights to land for the purpose of a new water well. Carl McLean seconded the motion. (Motion carried)

Executive Session to discuss rights to land for the purpose of a new water well began at 8:15 p.m. Executive Session ended at 8:30 p.m. and regular meeting resumed at that time.

Carl McLean made a motion to proceed with sending the agreement to Mr. Ernst that Brian Cagle has prepared and Steve Halmi has reviewed. (Steve Halmi will take care of handing the agreement to Mr. Ernst.) Alan Baldarelli seconded the motion. Roll call: unanimous – yea. (Motion carried)

Minutes of previous meeting – (DeBlasio/Baldarelli)
Profit and Loss Statement – (DeBlasio/McLean)
Aged Accounts **–** Reviewed
Bills presented for payment –(Baldarelli/Tigri)

Adjournment – 8:35 p.m. (DeBlasio/Baldarelli)