

## **Shawneeland Sanitary District Advisory Committee (SSDAC) - Minutes of February 7, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Those in attendance were Barry Van Meter, Jeff Stevens, George Bishop, Rhonda Sargent, Kevin Alderman, Director of Public Works, Joe Wilder and three (3) residents. Ken Baker, SSDAC member and Supervisor Shawn Graber were absent. Chairperson, Rhonda Sargent informed the SSDAC that Ken Baker had informed her in writing that it would be necessary for him to resign from the committee.

After indicating that the November 7, 2022 date originally stated in the minutes had been revised to reflect a date of November 14, 2022, Rhonda called for approval/correction of the November meeting and January special meeting minutes. Motion to accept the Minutes as presented was made by George and seconded by Jeff. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Manager's Report:**

See Attached Manager's Report. (**Attachment A**)

### **New Business:**

#### **Update on Crystal Lake (Cherokee Dam) Remediation:**

- Joe Wilder indicated that the Shawneeland Sanitary District Advisory Committee's (SSDAC) request to take the amount of \$380,000 from Shawneeland's reserve fund to perform the subject remediation had been presented to the public works committee during their meeting held on January 25, 2022. The committee unanimously approved the request and recommended that it be forwarded to the finance committee for their recommendation/approval. The finance committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, February 16, 2022.
- If approved by the finance committee, it is anticipated that the request will go before the Board of Supervisors for review/approval during either their February 23, 2022 meeting or March 9, 2022 meeting. If approved, the funds will be transferred from the reserve into the contractual services line item and then a final firm remediation cost will be obtained from Viola Engineering and American Concrete Services.
- At that point, Mr. Wilder indicated that he will get back with the subcommittee to follow up.
- It is anticipated that the work will occur in either April or May of this year as long as the lake doesn't come up too far.

#### **Tomahawk Mailhouse Mailboxes**

- A subcommittee had been formed previously regarding the need for replacing existing mailboxes as well as adding new ones due to the amount of new homes that are being/have been constructed. Ken Baker was on/in charge of that subcommittee. Since Ken has resigned from the SSDAC, George Bishop agreed to take up where Ken left off. George indicated that he would contact Ken to obtain any and all information he had on this matter and take it from there.

## **Possible Upgrades to Playground on Aspen/Maple Trails – Creation of a Subcommittee**

- The chairperson stated she had received an email from a resident that had expressed an interest in being on a subcommittee for the potential upgrade to the subject playground.
- The manager indicated that more than likely, this project would be something to be discussed for inclusion in the next fiscal year budget.
- Based on the manager's comment, this item was tabled until the next fiscal year budget process.

## **Fishing Derby**

- In his report, the manager indicated that he was going to stock the ponds, the lake on Bowman Lane as well as Cherokee Lake (if the repairs were complete) with trout. This will be done the Friday before Mother's Day.
- After discussion about possibly reinstating the fishing derby, including comments from the citizens in the audience in favor of having one, a motion was made Mr. Stevens and seconded by Mr. Van Meter to hold a fishing derby. It was unanimously approved. The derby will be held rain or shine on the Saturday before Mother's Day.
- It was recommended that the chairperson contact Anna Campbell, who, in the past, had organized and coordinated the event in the past to determine if she would be interested in doing so again. If so, it is recommended that posters are created and prizes are purchased (for each age group eligible to participate).

## **Public Comments:**

- A resident suggested that the SSDAC consider adding a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section on the county's SSDAC website. This may help with concerns/questions residents have.
- Another resident spoke up to say that they really appreciated everything that the staff was doing and that they knew that they were doing the best that they could.
- Another resident inquired about the funding requested for the lake remediation. In particular, if the remediation did not require the all of the \$380,000 allocated – could the remaining amount be utilized toward the replacement of aging/declining equipment?
- The public works director stated that this money, if approved, will be allocated for the remediation of the lake and only the lake. Any amount which remains from the remediation project, is required to be returned to the SSD reserve. For replacement of equipment, it would be necessary to go through the process to request funding to replace the equipment (as was done for the lake remediation).
- The resident also inquired about the possibility of cracks in the aquifer being discovered during the dye injection process that will be performed prior to initiating the remediation.
- The public works director indicated that when the contractor injects the dye, the purpose is to determine how long it takes it to get from the lake to the council house. There will be a chemist (who works with the company that makes the polyurethane resin product) on site who will calculate (based on how long it took the dye to get from point A to point B) exactly how much of the product is required along with a certain catalyst for it to react and perform. It is anticipated

that the product will wind up expanding along the fault line. The company will have a more specific idea once the actual dye test is performed.

- A resident inquired about the number of vehicles that cross the dam and if during the study it was determined how many and at what speed. Is there any way to resolve the problem with drivers passing other drivers where they are not supposed to in this area?
- Barry responded that the study indicated an amount of 18,541 vehicles at speeds of 26–45 miles per hour were registered on Tomahawk Trail. Other than slowing down or separating the roadway, there is not much that can be done about this.

Chairperson entertained a motion to adjourn. So moved by George, seconded by Jeff. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

## FREDERICK COUNTY SANITARY DISTRICT OF SHAWNEELAND MANAGER'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2022

### **Snow Removal:**

The staff has been busy over the last month with snow and ice events on 1/7/2022, 1/9/2022, 1/16/2022-1/17/2022, 1/20/2022, and 1/28/2022-1/29/2022. The staff prepares for winter weather events a couple of days in advance depending on the forecast. Smaller events only take a day of preparation. The preparations include checking over the snow equipment that will be needed for the event at hand. We make sure our generators are in good working order in case of a power outage. We make sure we have plenty of snow melting materials ready for the incoming storm as well as having an adequate amount of fuel to keep the equipment running.

A few hours before a winter weather event begins to fall, we pretreat the roads with a mixture of chemicals. This includes salt, calcium flakes, and #9 Stone. We also use sand mixed with salt and calcium. Although we use these materials, when the temperature drops below approximately 20 degrees, they will not melt the snow and ice. This is the problem we had with the snow on the 17<sup>th</sup> into the 18<sup>th</sup>. The wind also created a challenge as well.

The staff and contract drivers use our trucks to push snow on approximately 90 lane miles of roads. We also remove snow on 6 parking lots, 3 bus stop walkways, and 2 mailhouse sidewalks. We also help North Mountain Fire and Rescue by pushing snow from in front of the truck bays.

Snow removal is a very difficult task in Shawneeland with the challenges of the terrain even with the most experienced plow drivers. At times it is difficult for our plow trucks to gain traction even with chains on the equipment to help us do our job.

We would greatly appreciate if vehicles were not parked on the roadway's during snow removal operations. It would also be appreciated if the snow from driveway's did not end up in the road. I know that we have been accused of purposely blocking driveways, but this is not the case. We are simply doing our job in a safe, effective manner.

### **Aging Equipment:**

Over the past couple of years, I have casually mentioned my concerns over aging equipment. We are now at the point where I am going to address some of those needs by purchasing some used equipment over the next couple years. I can save a considerable amount of money by purchasing good, used equipment and trucks.

We have 2 plow trucks that are 25 plus years old. One of those is a 1995 F-350 1 ton truck that needs a new dump bed and hoist. The bed is rusted very badly, and the hoist structure broke in half from the rust. It would cost approximately \$10,000.00 to repair. We have a 1997 F-350 plow truck that is also badly rusted. I will not be replacing this truck; I will however upgrade with a 1-ton truck with a dump bed.

We have a Case tractor that is 31 years old. This tractor is used to mow along all the trails in Shawneeland. It is equipped with a side sickle bar mower and bush hog. This tractor gets used 8 months out of the year. I will be replacing this tractor next year.

The bobcat is 26 years old and has 3,200 hours. The bucket for the bobcat needs replaced. This piece of equipment is a vital part of our snow removal operations. We cannot afford to be without this equipment.

The backhoe is 16 years old and has 6,300 hours. Although at this point it is working fine. It does have some leaks and things that need to be addressed. The average life span of a backhoe is 7-10 years and 5-7 thousand hours. This will need to be replaced within the next 3 years.

During the month of January, we were without 2 of our regular snow removal trucks. The 2007 F-350 pick-up truck has some major engine problems and some electrical issues. Repairs will cost approximately \$9,000.00. The 2009 D2500 pick-up truck had a transmission failure during the first snow event. This repair will cost \$6,800.00. It is not cheap to maintain a fleet of trucks and equipment. We do all we can do in-house to keep the trucks and equipment moving. We keep very accurate records of all the in-house servicing that we do on the trucks and equipment. Please keep in mind the terrain in Shawneeland is very taxing on all the equipment we use to maintain the roads.

So, in short, we need to be prepared to purchase some newer equipment so we can continue to be effective and efficient in our daily tasks.

### **Cherokee Lake Beach:**

There is a plan to expand the sandy area under the water in the beach area. We are going to drop the bottom of this area down about 18"-24" during the expansion. By doing this work, we will be able to extend the buoy's further out from the beach. This will give beach goer's a larger, deeper swimming area. The width of the buoy area will not change. As we do every year, the beach area itself will receive several tons of fresh sand.

### **Fishing Derby:**

Not sure if the fishing derby is going to take place this spring but I am going to stock trout in the ponds, the lake on Bowman Lane, and Cherokee Lake if it is repaired by then. I will be ordering the usual amount of 406 trout. Last year the total for the fish was \$1,286.00.

### **Shop Furnace:**

The furnace in the maintenance shop has not been working properly for a couple of months. Upon having it checked by a HVAC Technician he discovered that some parts needed replaced. While trying to order the parts for the 25+ year old furnace, the technician found the parts to be obsolete. So, at this point we are in the process of replacing the unit. We are waiting to receive 3 quotes from different companies and will move forward with the lowest bid.