

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District  
Minutes of Management Committee Meeting  
November 10, 2016**

The meeting commenced at 7:41 P.M. at the Leicester Town Hall in Meeting Room #3.

In attendance: Tommy Lee, District Chairman  
Terence O'Coin, Treasurer  
Thomas Forsberg, District Vice-Chairman  
Michele Cospier, District Clerk

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The previously distributed minutes of the September 15, 2016 Management Committee Meetings were offered for approval. A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to accept the Minutes. Due to lack of a quorum, there was no meeting on October 13, 2016.

**Clerk's Report**

See attached memorandum dated November 10, 2016 for Clerk's report of communications for the period 9/16/16 through 11/10/16.

**Treasurer's Report**

A Treasurer's Report dated 10/13/16 showed that the District had \$317,178.06 on deposit in the Spencer Savings Bank. Of this amount, \$270,832.71 was deposited in the money market account containing betterment payments. The report shows an interest deposit of \$97.83. Of the remained, \$45,219.93 was in a general funds checking account. The report shows no deposits. The report shows two payments of \$3,848.00 to Mirick O'Connell for legal services and \$5,058.00 to Braley & Wellington Insurance Agency. \$1,125.42 was in the stabilization account. Mr. O'Coin requested and was granted approval for Warrant number 199.

A Treasurer's Report dated 11/10/16 showed that the District had \$315,747.57 on deposit in the Spencer Savings Bank. Of this amount, \$270,935.94 was deposited in the money market account containing betterment payments. The report shows an interest deposit of \$103.23. Of the remained, \$43,686.21 was in a general funds checking account. The report shows no deposits. The report shows three payments of \$1431.30 to Mirick O'Connell for legal services and \$51.21 x 2 to the District Clerk for reimbursement for Legal Notices placed in the T&G for the Tax Classification Hearings. \$1,125.42 was in the stabilization account. Mr. O'Coin requested and was granted approval for Warrant number 200.

*FY2016 Tax Payment Update*

Out of 92 proprietors, 87 have paid in full (95%), 1 has paid half (1%) and 4 have not paid (4%). Total collections to date is \$38,956.28 with approximately \$1,247 (~3%) to be collected.

*FY2017 Betterments Update*

FY17 Betterment collections have just begun. 93 proprietors owed betterment payment (Green Mountain Club is included). 13 proprietors have pre-paid, 7 have been paid off in full. Therefore, 73 proprietors are making betterment payments: 0 proprietors have paid in full, 26 (36%) proprietors have paid half, and 47 (64%) proprietors have paid none. This payment profile is in line with the timing of collections.

The District was informed by the Town of Leicester Assessor's office that 27 Rawson Drive was sold by Tara Moore to Mr & Mrs. Sheehan. The betterment was not paid at closing even though the Assessor's office was clear that the Betterment existed and needed to be paid at the time of closing. Mr. O'Coin will continue to attempt to follow up on this matter with the buyers. The District betterments are non-transferrable. The District will need to follow-up and further investigate the lack of payment of the betterment attached to 27 Rawson Drive upon sale of this property.

#### *Audit FY2016*

The District Treasurer met with Accountant Dan Haynes to start the FY2016 audit.

#### *FY2017 Tax Rate*

The process to set the tax rate for FY2017 has been started. The tax classification hearing was held prior this meeting. The LA-4 form was obtained from the Town of Leicester Assessor office. The District Treasurer and District Clerk will coordinate to submit forms through the MA DOR portal.

### **Old Business**

#### *Weed Control & Treatment*

Although algae was observed in the mid summer, the water continued to get clearer over the late summer and into the early Fall. The Fall newsletter reminded proprietors to use phosphorus free fertilizers and minimize storm runoff into the lake; this reminder will be included in the Spring 2017 Newsletter. The water has clarified to be crystal clear at this point due to the lower water temperatures.

#### *Lake Level Management Update*

In early October prior to starting the FA2016 draw-down, it was noted that a culvert on Charles Street down stream from the dam was blocked. The Leicester Highway Department cleared the culvert. The Fall 2016 draw started on October 15 as specified by the Order of Conditions.

In the upcoming year, the flash boards should be replaced with new pieces of plywood. The District will plan to work on this replacement.

### **New Business**

#### *Rawson Street Bridge Area Signs and Floats*

Fishing activity and alleged trespassing has been reported in the area of the Rawson Street Bridge. Upon completion of the Rawson Street Bridge Project, updating the signage and floats will be revisited and possibly revised based on the new bridge structure. A letter in the form of an email will be drafted to Mr. Stiles to follow-up with him.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was recessed at 8:25 to go into Executive Session to discuss outstanding litigation in the form of a complaint from Raymond E. Shea, Jr. through the law firm of Army and Lee demanding payment of \$100,000 for flooding land below the dam.

**Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Committee was scheduled for 7:30 P.M. on Thursday, January 12, 2017 in Room 3 at the Leicester Town Hall.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 P.M.

A True Copy Attest:

Michele M. Cospers  
District Clerk

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District  
Memorandum**

**Date:** November 10, 2016  
**Subject:** District Communications  
**To:** Management Committee  
**From:** District Clerk

District Clerk Michele Cospers reported the following communications for the period of September 16, 2016 to November 10, 2016. This memorandum will be attached to the November 10, 2016 Management Committee Meeting minutes:

- 9/18 Fall 2016 Newsletter was distributed
- 9/18 Communication with Mark Hobson regarding status of the legal suit
- 9/20 Assessors office forwarded betterment payoff for 61 Fairview Drive
- 9/21 Submitted tax classification notice for publication in the Worcester T&G
- 9/27 Dick Johnston sent an email stating that informing the District that Mr. Shea's current status.
- 9/28 Tax Classification noticed published in the T&G
- 9/29 Communication with Mark Hobson regarding scheduling of Fall Drawdown
- 10/10 Mr. O'Coin sent his reports due to his absence at the October 13 meeting
- 10/12 Confirmed with Braley & Wellington that the insurance premium invoice on the October 13 warrant and payment will be sent following our meeting.
- 10/15 Mr. Lee started Fall Draw Down process
- 10/17 Email from Mr. Stiles regarding fishing and buoys at the Rawson Street Bridge
- 10/20 Posted a Second Legal Notice in the T&G regarding Tax Classification Hearing on November 10
- 10/20 Note of Appreciation from Mr. Hobson regarding Fall lake level
- 10/30 District Treasurer wrote to Town of Leicester requesting LA-4 form for FY17
- 11/1 Rawson Street Bridge on Warrant for Town of Leicester Special Meeting