

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District
Minutes of Management Committee Meeting
September 15, 2016**

The meeting commenced at 7:38 P.M. at the Leicester Town Hall in Meeting Room #3.

In attendance: Paul Dufrense, District Vice-Chairman
Terence O'Coin, Treasurer
Thomas Forsberg
Michele Cospers, District Clerk
Michael Shivick, Town of Leicester Selectman (dropped in and out throughout the meeting)

Minutes of Previous Meetings

The previously distributed minutes of the August 11, 2016 Management Committee Meetings were offered for approval. A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to accept the Minutes.

Clerk's Report

See attached memorandum dated September 15, 2016 for Clerk's report of communications for the period 8/11/16 through 9/14/16. 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 attempt to follow up on this matter with the buyers.

Treasurer's Report

A Treasurer's Report dated 9/15/16 showed that the District had \$325,986.16 on deposit in the Spencer Savings Bank. Of this amount, \$270,734.88 was deposited in the money market account containing betterment payments. The report shows a deposit of \$16,387.27 from FY15/16/17 betterment payments and an interest deposit of \$102.35. Of the remained, \$54,125.93 was in a general funds checking account. The report shows two deposits of \$3,775.96 and \$1,485.81 from FY16 tax collections. The report shows one payments of \$634.00 to Mirick O'Connell for legal services. \$1,125.42 was in the stabilization account. Mr. O'Coin requested and was granted approval for Warrant number 198. Payment 3 of 40 was made to the USDA.

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.

Old Business

Weed Control & Treatment

ESS Group completed their spring 2016 pre-treatment aquatic plant survey. The report (District Permanent File: W07-0516-5) reveals that the treatment of fanwort and milfoil in the designated treatment areas in Cedar Meadow Lake was highly effective in reducing exotic plant cover and bio-volume for that year. ESS recommends treating 4.2 acres of variable-leaf milfoil in the lake using Reward and to continue mapping aquatic plants in the lake each spring. After some discussion it was agreed that we would not treat the lake this year with Reward. The committee feels comfortable with the effectiveness of last year's treatment and would like to take a season off from treatment. There was also some concern over the potential for another algae bloom due to the treatment should the summer be hot and dry similar to last year. 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.

Lake Level Management Update

On March 9, the upper channel was closed by installing the flash boards and the lower gate valve was opened 1/4 to simulate Spring brook conditions as specified in the Order of Conditions (R95 - 1015 - 18). The lake was 9 inches above the spillway (zero) water mark, and the lower gate remains 1/4 open. On Monday 6/2/16 the lower gate was closed and the lake was at its normal mark of (zero). In early August the lake was down 8" mostly due to the evaporation to high temperatures, sunshine and a lack of rain. The draw is scheduled to start in mid-October.

Rawson Street Bridge Replacement

MADOT presented their early Rawson Street Bridge plan to the Town on September 8. The District Clerk inquired if there would be any issues with water flow / water levels in the Lake during construction. MADOT replied that there should not be any issues with low water levels in the lake during the construction of the new bridge.

New Business

Permanent File Storage

The District Clerk moved permanent file storage boxes to Mr. Tommy Lee's property. The boxes will be kept up on shelves in his basement.

Permanent File Storage

The District Clerk will send a legal notice in the T&G for the Tax Classification Hearing to take place on October 13, 2016 prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Committee.

Fall Newsletter

A Fall newsletter will be drafted and sent out within 1-2 weeks.

Executive Session

The meeting was not recessed 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, October 13, 2016 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 8:45 P.M.

A True Copy Attest:

Michele M. Cospers
District Clerk

**Cedar Meadow Lake Watershed District
Memorandum**

Date: September 15, 2016
Subject: District Communications
To: Management Committee
From: District Clerk

District Clerk Michele Cospers reported the following communications for the period of August 12, 2016 to September 15, 2016. This memorandum will be attached to the September 15, 2016 Management Committee Meeting minutes:

8/12 Tax Update sent by District Treasurer

8/15 Article in T&G published that touched upon the District's relationship with Mr. Doug Belanger.

8/21 Mr. Hobson had a question regarding liability and the "No Trespassing" signs that the dam. District Clerk replied she would raise his concerns at the September meeting.

8/25 Mr. Forsberg reported that he observed an eel in the lake. It was about 2 ft long.

8/27 Communication between District Clerk and District Treasurer regarding foreclosure notice in T&G of 138 Charles Street.

8/30 Notification sent by electronic distribution list of three items: (1) drawdown date (also to be included in the Fall Newsletter), (2) Eagle Project at first beach on Fairview, and (3) Rawson Street Bridge Public Meeting at the Town Hall.

8/30 Mr. Lee forwarded information regarding phosphorus content in fertilizer in Massachusetts that was seen posted at Klems.

9/2 Request sent to District Management Committee to change September meeting date from the ninth to the fifteenth.

9/7 Call to the District Treasurer to the District Clerk regarding non-payment of the betterment when 27 Rawson Drive was sold to David and Amanda Sheehan. The District Treasurer will follow up.

9/9 Note from Zemaitis Baker regarding weeds near the Rawson Street Bridge

9/14 Notification regarding new septic installation at 37 Fairview Drive