

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Committee Meeting

September 8, 2021 2021

Present: Mr. Smith, Mr. Burnett, Ms. DeBenedictis, Foreman Mr. Hurlock and Recording Secretary Melissa Knight.

Mr. Smith started the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Smith announced Mr. Carrow and Mr. Valentine were excused from tonight's meeting.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the following items:

- To discuss and vote on the anticipated sewer expense
- To discuss premium pay

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Hurlock to discuss the sewer expense. Mr. Hurlock stated the proposal for the LS#2 Town Homes (Holden Street) will be to remove existing pumps and piping in wet well, remove station lid and reinstall new lid to fit with a new Smith & Loveless Station. To include all piping, valves, controls and pumps. Install bypass in existing vault with piping and valves. All electrical changes to make the station operational. The changes to the lift station will be a safer environment for Public Works Crew so they do not have to manually pull the pumps out of the raw sewage. Freemire and Associates, Inc. is the company in this area that installs the Smith & Loveless Station which the Town is currently using. Ms. DeBenedictis stated this is a health issue for Public Works Crew and this would be covered under the ARPA. Mr. Hurlock stated the cost for changing the station is \$117,500. There is an optional lining of wet well that Mr. Hurlock feels that we should repair in the other lift stations, if there is any money left over to have the lining done at a later date.

Mr. Burnett made a motion to accept the LS#2 Town Homes (Holden Street) in the amount of \$117,500 that Mr. Hurlock outlined with Freemire & Associates, Inc. Mr. Hurlock stated that Freemire & Associates, Inc. has this jurisdiction for the Smith & Loveless, seconded by Ms. DeBenedictis. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Smith made a proposal regarding premium pay before when the pandemic started. He stated he is proposing \$2,000 premium pay to each employee for the calendar year 2020. The total that would be disbursed from the ARPA account is \$43,000. If there are future premium pay to come the next one if approved would be for calendar year 2021. The premium pay is one time check not a pay rate increase.

Mr. Burnett made a motion to accept the \$2,000 per employee premium pay based on the calendar year 2020, seconded by Ms. DeBenedictis. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Burnett asked when the checks would be disbursed to the employees. Mr. Smith stated that he would like for the checks to be disbursed next week. Mr. Hurlock asked about a retired employee that worked in 2020 would he be eligible for the premium pay. Mr. Smith stated there

are other factors that need to be ironed out regarding this particular employee. Mr. Smith stated that he would pass the premium pay to the retired employee as long as it does not have a negative impact on his retirement. Mr. Hurlock asked if Mr. Lucas would be eligible for the premium pay. Mr. Smith asked did he work during the calendar year 2020. Mr. Lucas was hired in 2021, he would not be eligible for the premium pay this time.

Mr. Burnett amended the motion any part-time or full-time employees that worked calendar year 2020, part-time or full-time is eligible for the \$2,000 premium pay, with the exception of Mr. Timmons and who be included as long as it does not negatively impact him on his retirement benefits which will be decided by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. DeBenedictis. Motion unanimously carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Recording Secretary,

Melissa J. Knight