

**SEELEY LAKE SEWER DISTRICT**  
**PUBLIC HEARING MEETING**  
**August 6, 2020**

|                 |                |         |                |             |         |
|-----------------|----------------|---------|----------------|-------------|---------|
| Tom Morris      | President      | PRESENT | Pat Goodover   | Director    | PRESENT |
| Beth Hutchinson | Vice President | PRESENT | Walt Hill      | Director    | PRESENT |
| Jason Gilpin    | Director       | PRESENT | Felicity Derry | Secretary   | PRESENT |
| Jean Curtiss    | Manager        | PRESENT | Kim Myre       | Missoula Co | PRESENT |

Public Attendance - Appendix A

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Tom Morris at 6:01pm. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom, due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Beth Hutchinson moved to approve the agenda as presented.** There was no discussion. The motion was carried.

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Tom Morris      | Aye |
| Beth Hutchinson | Aye |
| Pat Goodover    | Aye |
| Walt Hill       | Aye |
| Jason Gilpin    | Aye |

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:**

Tom Morris requested that meeting participants be respectful and succinct.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Colleen Krause commented that if the Board had chosen a different assessment method, the people in town would not have protested as their assessment was quite low.

Michael Richards questioned what the Board's concerns were regarding the other assessment option. Beth Hutchinson outlined the Board's concerns for the alternative assessment methodology and discussion followed on the Board's reasoning.

Colleen Krause commented that it would be interesting to see the comments in the protests. Tom Morris noted that the public were invited to read their protests at the meeting.

Pastor Jim Johnson, Baptist Church commented that this assessment was high compared to those in other states. Also, a table showing the administrative fee for comparable sewer systems had been

requested. Jean Curtiss responded that the District's assessment was different to most other districts that had a functioning system, and then explained the assessment and how it related to the District's budget. Discussion followed on the applicable state law.

Michael Richards requested that the Board consider spreading the cost of the District's budget equally, as all properties received equal benefit, rather than burdening a small number of properties. Jim Johnson concurred.

There were no other public comments.

Tom Morris thanked the public for their participation and closed the public hearing portion of the meeting at 6:33pm

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Report of Written Protests received by the August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 Deadline**

Jean Curtiss noted that one more protest had been received in the mail this morning, postmarked August 4, 2020, which was beyond the deadline. This late protest would not have changed the outcome of the protest. Jean Curtiss reviewed the protests received for the assessment, concluding that the protest had been inadequate and outlined why the Board had not changed the assessment methodology at the previous meeting.

Pastor Jim Johnson questioned if the Board would be proceeding with the assessment because the protest was inadequate. Tom Morris noted that the Board would proceed with a vote. Jean Curtiss reviewed the amount of the protest and what the threshold was. The number of protests that had been received and counted was discussed.

#### **Resolution#08062020 Setting Assessments Seeley Lake Sewer District**

Felicity Derry read Resolution#08062020 (Appendix B). Tom Morris asked if the Board wanted make any amendments to the resolution.

**Pat Goodover moved to approve Resolution#08062020 Setting Assessments Seeley Lake Sewer District as presented.** Walt Hill seconded the motion. Michael Richards urged the Board to reject the resolution as it was not fair, equitable and equal across the District. Pastor Jim Johnson and Colleen Krause both concurred. There was no discussion. The motion was carried and Resolution#08062020 passed.

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|-----------------|-----|
| Tom Morris      | Aye |
| Beth Hutchinson | Nay |
| Pat Goodover    | Aye |
| Walt Hill       | Aye |
| Jason Gilpin    | Nay |

**ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING:**

Tom Morris adjourned the meeting at 6:40pm.

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| Tom Morris      | Aye |
| Beth Hutchinson | Aye |
| Pat Goodover    | Aye |
| Walt Hill       | Aye |
| Jason Gilpin    | Aye |

Attest:

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Tom Morris, President

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Felicity Derry, Secretary