

Thursday, October 20, 2016

Mayor Jeremy Nunes convened the special meeting of the Dawson Village Board with the Pledge of Allegiance, at 6:30 p.m.

Trustees present were Joan Davis, Jake Byerline, Josh Blakeman, John Reilly and Robin Ashton-Hale. Nancy Prytherch arrived later. Also present were Mayor Jeremy Nunes, Clerk Pat Curry, and Treasurer Shelly Farley, Attorney Steve Scott and Engineer Kevin Kuhn. Representatives from the Buffalo/Mechanicsburg water systems were also present.

Water Plant Dedication: The first item of discussion concerned dedication of the Dawson Water Plant to Charlie Abbott. Mayor Nunes noted that even before Charlie was sick he had thought about naming the water plant for him. He told the board the cost to take down the old lettering and put up new vinyl letters is \$1,000.00. The choices are for vinyl or 3-D letters. 3-D letters will cost about \$2,000.00. The dedication will be tentatively set for Sunday October 30th, depending on if his family wishes to keep this date or postpone it. He has been in contact with the Abbott family for planning the event. 3-D letters would not be ready by the 30th. Discussion on 3D or vinyl letters ensued. Matt Lauderback, representing Buffalo/Mechanicsburg, said they would like to donate \$500.00 toward the letters. John Reilly made a motion to spend up to \$2,000 for letters for the water plant, with a second by Jake Byerline. MC

Interim Water Operator: Mayor Nunes commented that Dawson had entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the Buffalo/Mechanicsburg water system, so they are interested in what Dawson is doing. I have been keeping them up to date.

Mayor Nunes said we have been taking applications for a water operator. There were four responses. One had former employers who hesitated to give good recommendations. One withdrew their application because there would be no vacation until one year of service and pay was below average. The other two were not already licensed. I contacted a couple of different sources, Rural Water and EJ Water for a possible interim water plant operator. Then, I contacted Riverton for a temporary operator. The Mayor of Riverton is ok for Jordan Lyons to work part time for Dawson. He wanted to visit the plant, Jack showed him around, he said there is a lot of work that needs to be done at the plant, things that Charlie held off on due to cost and he managed to make things work as long as possible. He felt the repairs were so vital the EPA might fine us if they were to inspect it. Jordan would be willing to work with Jack and Scott to get their own license. Riverton's only concern was that Jordan must do this on his own time, and he cannot use the Riverton truck or equipment, which is certainly understandable.

1. IRW charges \$400.00 per month, and will go to the plant twice a month. Will do a few weeks interim at no charge.
2. EJ Water is out of Effingham. The charge \$175.00 per month and will come to the water plant as often as you like for \$75.00 an hour plus mileage. Attorney Scott said he thought the mileage was usually .54 per mile.

Mayor Nunes told Jordan Lyons what Charlie's salary had been. Jordan's response said I make quite a bit more than that. He is willing to work 20 hours a month, probably 5 days a week for an hour or so, at \$40.00 per hour, before and after his Riverton hours. He has rotating hours and has a free weekday once in awhile. Jordan says there is quite a bit of work that needs to be done at the Dawson water plant. Robin Ashton-Hale commented I thought Charlie was supposed to be training Jack. Now we have issues that need to be fixed that Charlie didn't fix? ... Mayor Nunes said wait until you hear my proposal: 20 hours is \$9,600.00 per year—25 hours a month is \$12,000. yearly—30 hours would be \$14,400.00 yearly. If we add another full timer at \$11.00 per hour, which is \$23,000.00 yearly, that would be \$37,400.00 combined. Charlie's salary was \$45,000.00 yearly, that would be a savings of \$8,000.00 right off the top, even at the high end. The difference will give us a cushion to pay the contracted raises if Jack or Scott get licensed. We can hire Jordan part time for a minimum of 20 hours a month for a period of 1 year, and make an opening for a full time employee. Mr. Lauderback said a D license is required just to do water samples. Josh Blakeman asked if we are looking at major repairs? Robin Ashton-Hale said, I know, Charlie never said we had repairs back then, and now we are hearing this. This should have been brought to us before now! Mayor Nunes said that is past, we need to move forward. Mayor Nunes said we have at least \$50,000.00 in repairs. Kevin Kunz said Charlie was very good at making things work. Treasurer Shelly Farley said he always was concerned about the customers and didn't want to raise rates. Mayor Nunes noted the water rate increase we made was to raise money for infrastructure maintenance and repair, so we are prepared for this. We have 15 days to get someone in here. Buffalo/Mechanicsburg are in agreement with the hours for Jordan. I don't know if we can find someone else in that time. Josh asked if this new full timer we are hiring, will he be mowing or reading meters or what? Mayor Nunes replied yes, 50/50 between water and general. We will give him an opportunity to get his license, too. The Riverton Mayor said Jordan took over the Riverton water plant and is better than the previous operators. Robin Ashton-Hale said we need to give them a deadline on passing the test and let them go if they don't do it. Mayor Nunes said that can be part of the discussion on evaluations, we need to keep tonight's discussion focused. John Reilly made a motion to hire Jordan Lyons for a 1 year term at \$40.00 per hour, with a minimum of 20 hours per month, with a second by Nancy Prytherch. Nancy Prytherch: yes, John Reilly: Yes, Robin Ashton-Hale: No, Joan Davis: Yes, Jake Byerline: Yes, Josh Blakeman: Yes. MC

Nancy Prytherch made a motion to bring in a third full time employee at \$11.00 per hour, with a second by John Reilly. MC

Mayor Nunes said the EPA has to approve the contract, he can start immediately. Attorney Scott asked if the EPA has a required form? Mayor Nunes said he has the form and will submit it.

Meeting Adjourned 7:05 p.m.