

**Curran-Gardner Townships Public Water District**  
**3384 Hazlett Road | Springfield, Illinois | 62707-2522 | 217.546.3981**  
**Tuesday, May 14, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. – Special Board Meeting**

Members: Chairman James Mitchell, Vice Chairman Mike Irwin, Trustee Eric Oschwald, Trustee Bill Moss, Trustee Mark DiMarzio, Trustee Jim Mayes, Trustee Wayne Benanti, Operations Manager Aaron Smith, Engineer Max Middendorf (excused), Business Manager Cherril Graff, Treasurer Stacy Stremsterfer, and Secretary Jessica Ryg

*Guests: Todd Folder and Diana Valois*

**I. Call to Order:** Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. New Business** – Here is a snapshot of the 2024 – 2025 Budget Discussion/Approval:

Line Item 5060: Employees Health Plan

It is highly probable that health insurance will have a greater increase than the anticipated 8% growth it achieved last year. It was noted that Illinoisan's car insurance costs increased up to 35% in 2024 (IL and WY are the only two states in the country where lawmakers don't have the power to reject/modify insurance rate hikes). Proof here: [www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/why-drivers-should-expect-auto-insurance-rates-to-increase-in-2024/3334232/](http://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/why-drivers-should-expect-auto-insurance-rates-to-increase-in-2024/3334232/).

Line Item 5080: Office Supplies – Including Postage

It was noted that we're over on our proposed office equipment budget due to the increase in cost of items and supplies. That line item will be adjusted this year to include the fact that the 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mail Forever stamp will increase in cost from 68 cents to 73 cents. This will take effect on July 14, 2024. The USPS will have a 7.8% increase in postage prices overall, including a 2-cent increase to the price of a domestic postcard from 53 cents to 56 cents.

Line Item 5090 Office Equipment

This line item will increase due to higher costs of items.

New: Office Maintenance – annual

\$1,500 annual cleaning, buffing the floors, will decrease to \$0.

New: CUSI Billing System Annual Fee

This will be a new line item of \$8,940.00 for the software upgrade (secure billing).

Line Item 5105 IT (Info Technology) \$8000 (ended year at \$8,000, but budgeted for \$25,000)

Some of the previous items were the upgrade to the \$7,600.00 sound and televisual system plus compact database web hosting feature (telecommute to meetings).

Line Item 5140 Telephone

The ATT bill will be researched for possible reduction in cost.

Line Item 5170 Chemicals

This line item will increase from \$110,000 to \$145,000 due to additional cost.

Line Item 5210 Auditing

The annual audit expenditure will most likely increase as it has done in the past.

Line Item 5225a MECO/Engineering:

This line item will increase due to the proposed SRF projects.

Line Item 5225b Harris/Attorney:

This line item will increase due to the current GIS project.

Line Item 5226 Engineering Fees for B&M Project:

This line item will decrease since the first half was paid previously.

Line Item 5260 Lagoon Cleanout

It was noted that it cost \$14,000 previously (pending check cashed).

Line Item 5280 JULIE Locates on Service Calls

This line item increased by \$1,000.00

Line Item 6600 Tapping Expense

No change.

Debt Service Obligations/Reserve Requirements were discussed.

**(7:00 p.m.)**

Short Lived Assets (SLA) were discussed. These assets include billing software, billing system, high service pump, truck, back-up Lime Transfer Pump, etc.

**(7:06 p.m.)**

It was the recommendation of the Board to accept the budget.

Trustee Mayes made a motion to accept the 2024 - 2025 Budget with the requirement of \$500,000 to go into CapX funds. Chairman Mitchell second the motion. Chairman Mitchell took a roll call vote:

Trustee Moss: Yes

Trustee Mayes: Yes

Trustee Oswald: Yes

Trustee DMarzio: Yes

Trustee Benanti: Yes

Chairman Mitchell: Yes

Vice Chair Irwin: Yes

With seven yes votes, the motion passed.

Chairman Mitchell made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chair Irwin second the motion. The motion carried. (**Adjourned at 7:09 p.m.**)