MUD 136 Report

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By Barry Greer, Vice President

Once again, due to restrictions on meeting in person during this waning COVID-19 pandemic, the Harris County Municipal Utility District 136 monthly meeting was held remotely (via video conference using Zoom and tele-conference). The meeting was held on Thursday May 13, 2021. The Board also held a special meeting on April 27, 2021 (discussed below).

In our May 2021 regular meeting the Board reviewed water and sanitary sewer operations from the previous month with presentations from our consultants, received an update from the District’s Engineer pertaining to the Capital Improvement Project at the MUD 136 water plant, trash and recycling services, in addition to other agenda items pertinent to our District.

Although work on the electrical improvement project at the District water plant has been deemed substantially complete for several months, our Engineer again notes that a couple of minor issues remain and are being diligently addressed. He has received a final Application for Payment from the Contractor (retainage release) but, will not recommend payment until these final items are satisfactorily addressed. Our District Operator, Municipal Operations and Consulting (MOC) presented a security lighting improvement plan and estimate for the District water plant property. After a somewhat more detailed review of the proposed light fixtures by Board member Brent Phelps, the improvements should be implemented shortly.

Due to the pandemic and resulting Disaster Declaration by the State of Texas, and requests by Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo, MUD 136 has not been assessing late fees or termination of water service. These temporary measures that have been in-place for a considerable period does not mean forgiveness of water use payments. These temporary measures are no longer in affect. Those customers with accumulated, extraordinarily large, multiple month charges should contact MOC as soon as possible about their plans for payment or to set up a payment schedule to avoid water service termination that will result from no action.

The Board also held a special meeting, open to the public, on the evening of April 27, 2021, primarily for the purpose of reviewing the proposed agreement between MUD 136 and the Deerfield Village Community Association (DVCA) whereby the aforementioned would contribute an amount of $85,000 towards the construction of a perimeter fence to replace the, in many places, dilapidated 6’ wooden fence sections. However, due to several issues that were unable to be resolved, the MUD 136 Board chose not to donate to the perimeter fence addressed by the proposed agreement. We discussed the possibility of making a one-time contribution to DVCA to go specifically towards payment of the SEAL Security costs. Our legal counsel has since prepared a proposed agreement for this purpose and it is being considered by the MUD Board. A copy of the “Draft” agreement is available for District residents to review on the MUD 136 website.

MUD 136 and DVCA jointly hosted a Town Hall meeting on Monday, May 17, 2021 with West Harris County Regional Water Authority (WHCRWA) representatives concerning the 84” pipeline project that will traverse Deerfield through the easement in the northern portion of the District. As this article will not appear until after this meeting, we hope that all interested residents had the opportunity to learn more about this project in this meeting. We have been assured by WHCRWA that should additional Town Hall meetings be needed prior to the start of construction they will be happy to participate.

Our next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 6 P.M. Please visit our District website at [WWW.HCMUD136.ORG](http://WWW.HCMUD136.ORG) for confirmation of the meeting location (in person or virtual). In order to comply with the open meeting requirements, access to the on-line video/teleconference meeting will be made available to the public through our District website for any desired attendance.