

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the:

Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority
377 Cedarcrest Drive
Duncansville, PA 16635

The Regular Monthly Meeting, held on Wednesday, December 2, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., was called to order by Chairman Ted Ventre. Tonight's meeting was conducted through Conference Calling, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In attendance were 5 Authority members as follows: Ted Ventre, Robin Cadwallader, Lowell Kirk, Brendan Peterson, and Mary Bolt.

Also, in attendance were Tim M^cGaw, Manager; Katie M^cGaw, Administrative Assistant; Matt and Mike Gieg, Solicitors; Dave Cunningham, Engineer.

VISITORS: Donna Eckenrode

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of November 4, 2020. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 5 Yes.

Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for November 2020. MOTION: Bolt SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

Ted announced that there was a brief Executive Session held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Mike Gieg stated that BTWSA found out on 11/18/2020 that Gregory Werstil entered into an Industrial Lease at the North American Communications property on the 6th day of April 2020. As a result, BTWSA prepared an itemized bill for Gregory Werstil, Lessee, showing usage, sewer charges, and penalties. Mr. Werstil had an objection to being billed at the 8 EDU rate. After discussion, motion was made that Gregory Werstil, Lessee at the North American Communications property, is responsible to pay the entire bill, with no credits or adjustments, and that BTWSA will follow all normal billing and collection procedures for this property. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 5 Yes. This information will be given to Mr. Werstil by our solicitor since Mr. Werstil has retained legal counsel.

Mike reported that the Easements and the Bill of Sale for Barneywood, Phase II have been signed and recorded. Mike provided Tim McCarthy, President of Barneywood, with a breakdown of legal fees owed, and paid these out of the Construction Bond money before reimbursing the remainder (minus the 15% that will be held in escrow for 2 years). The 15% retainer is in the amount of \$20,864.00 and will be held by Gieg Law Offices LLC until it can be returned to Barneywood, any time after November 4, 2022.

Dave Cunningham stated that Keller Engineers was contacted by Ron Leach about the Vicki Claar Sewer Extension at 646 Patrick Lane, Newry. Ron would like to install a low-pressure grinder pump instead of a gravity sewer extension, due to the depth of the manhole he must tie into. Dave stated that Ron will need to submit new drawings before proceeding. Motion was made to approve the change in the Vicki Claar Sanitary Sewer Extension from a gravity sewer to a low-pressure grinder pump system. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

Dave handed out copies of the 2020 Annual Report and 2021 Recommended Budget for BTWSA. Dave met with Tim, Katie, and Mary Bolt on November 24 to go over the 2021 Budget. Our sewer treatment charges from Freedom Township have risen significantly, so Dave increased the budgeted amount by \$20,000 for 2021. Tim McGaw stated that Altoona Water Authority will not be raising our Water Rate in 2021 and Hollidaysburg will not be raising our Sewer Rate. Duncansville has plans to install a new digester, but is only in the application stage, so this should not affect BTWSA until 2022 or 2023. Dave feels our current Water and Sewer Rates can remain unchanged for 2021. Tim stated that the 2020 Ford F-550 Crew Cab truck we ordered is stuck in Ohio and this Capital Purchase may roll over into 2021. Dave stated there is \$125,000 budgeted for Capital Purchases/Projects in 2021. Motion was made to approve the 2020 Annual Report and 2021 Budget. MOTION: Bolt SECOND: Kirk VOTE: 5 Yes.

After discussion, motion was made to renew the UPMC Major Medical, Vision, and Dental policies for 2021 through the Gingrich Agency. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 5 Yes. Motion was made to approve the changes consistent with what was discussed in the November 4, 2020 and December 2, 2020 Executive Sessions regarding Health Care for the employees for 2021 and subsequent years. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 5 Yes.

Senator Judy Ward's office contacted BTWSA via email about the Penalties and Fees that had been charged to the Timothy Brumbaugh account after he became deceased. After discussion, motion was made to credit the Timothy Brumbaugh account for the \$9.92 in Penalties, \$50.00 Administrative fee, and \$65.00 Lien fee for a total credit of \$124.92. MOTION: Bolt SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

Given that our engineers recommend no rate increase for 2021, the proposed Rates Summary Sheet for 2021 was included in each Board Members folder. After discussion, motion was made to accept the Rates Summary Sheet for 2021. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Kirk VOTE: 5 Yes. A Resolution will be prepared for January's meeting.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the unique circumstances to both the Authority and the impact it has had on many of the citizens of Blair Township, motion was made to give the hourly employees a 2% increase in salary for 2021, effective January 1, 2021. In addition, Tim McGaw, Manager, will be receiving the same 2% increase in salary as the other employees, for the 2021 year only. There will be no Christmas Bonus issued for any employees. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

Ted announced the next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held via Conference Call on January 6, 2021, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 7:29 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 5 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,

Robin L. Cadwallader

~~Brendan M. Peterson~~
Robin L. Cadwallader

