

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, May 6, 2020, at 7:04 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 4 Authority members as follows: Ted Ventre, Robin Cadwallader, Lowell Kirk, and Brendan Peterson. (Mary Bolt was absent.)

Also, in attendance were Tim M<sup>c</sup>Gaw, Manager; Katie M<sup>c</sup>Gaw, Administrative Assistant; Mike Gieg, Solicitor; Dan Carbaugh, Engineer.

VISITORS: Eileen McKibbin Donna Eckenrode

Ted announced that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, last month's meeting, scheduled for April 1, 2020, was canceled.

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

Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for March 2020. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for April 2020. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Ted stated that Greg Werstil had asked to be put on the Agenda to discuss his 112 Farmall Lane property, but then changed his mind.

Mike Gieg reported there were a few complications with the Irrevocable Letter of Credit for Barneywood Phase II. After conferring with our engineers, Matt Gieg sent a letter to Cory Tubo, Senior Vice President of Reliance Bank, outlining the requirements of BTWSA for the Barneywood Phase II Irrevocable Letter of Credit. This letter was sent via email and fax on April 8, 2020. Matt has yet to receive a reply. Also, BTWSA is still waiting for the Developer's Agreement for Barneywood Phase II to be signed and returned to BTWSA and for the \$2,500.00 Review Fees to be paid. Motion was made to table the Barneywood Phase II Project until we receive the Irrevocable Letter of Credit, a signed Developer's Agreement, and the \$2,500.00 Review Fees. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Kirk VOTE: 4 Yes.

Mike stated that his office checked through land records and determined there is a Sewer Easement in place for the Vicki Claar Development at 646 Patrick Lane, Newry. Tim McGaw stated we have received the \$2,500.00 Review Fees, but are still waiting on her engineer to draw up the plans so they can be reviewed by Keller Engineers. Motion was made to allow Vicki Claar to move forward with her development at 646 Patrick Lane,

pending receipt of plans from her engineer. MOTION: Kirk \*SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Ted Ventre brought up that there had been a Resolution drawn up resulting from an Executive Session the Board had held. Since then, Ted has spoken with Altoona Water Authority about different points addressed in the Resolution, and feels some of the wording needs changed. Motion was made to table voting on Resolution 2020-2 until the Board has time to discuss it further. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Ventre VOTE: 4 Yes.

Dan Carbaugh reported that Keller Engineers submitted the Chapter 110 Water Report to DEP.

Dan explained the Water Allocation Compliance Report will be completed soon and submitted to DEP.

Dan stated the revised application to the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) for the Small Water & Sewer Program H2O Grant for the Reservoir Road Sanitary Sewer Project has been submitted. The CFA has received applications requesting over \$500 million dollars and the CFA only has \$40 million to spend. Since submitting our application, Keller received inquiries as to whether the Right-of-Way's and Permits were in place. Keller responded we were just in the Planning stage and were not Project Ready. The CFA will be making their decision in September.

Dan discussed the handout he had provided, saying there is the possibility of federal stimulus money becoming available to repair aging water and wastewater infrastructure. This stimulus money is meant to jump start the economy by creating jobs and will be awarded to municipalities whose projects are Project Ready.

Ted spoke about how BTWSA has been planning for the Reservoir Road Wastewater Project on & off for over five years. He feels we should proceed with having Keller Engineers prepare the design and get the Right-of-Way's and Permits in place for this Project. Motion was made to have Keller Engineers prepare the design and get the Right-of-Way's and Permits for the Reservoir Road Sanitary Sewer Project. MOTION: Ventre SECOND: Kirk VOTE: 2 Yes (Ventre and Kirk) and 2 No (Cadwallader and Peterson).

Brendan Peterson feels we need to inform the people along Reservoir Road about this proposed Project and how it will impact them. We received a letter from DEP showing DEP's options for these residents, and we have composed a letter offering BTWSA's option. This letter communicates that BTWSA is offering to install a sanitary sewer system as an alternative option to the ones offered by DEP. This letter also invites residents to attend BTWSA meetings to voice their opinions on the options offered. Brendan feels we should send both letters to the residents within the proposed Project Area before we decide to move forward. Motion was made to send the DEP letter and the BTWSA letter to the residents in the Reservoir Road Sanitary Sewer Project Area, after a few minor changes have been made involving punctuation and minor word choice edits, without changing the contents. MOTION: Peterson SECOND: Kirk VOTE: 4 Yes.

Tim stated he met with State Senator Judy Ward on March 9 and took them on a driving tour of Reservoir Road Sanitary Sewer Project Area.

Tim stated we received a bill from DEP for \$4,000.00 for the Chapter 109 Safe Drinking Water Annual Fee. This is a fee imposed upon all Water Authorities based upon the number of customers they serve.

Tim is looking into adding outdoor Security Cameras at the Maintenance Facility. The police were called whenever someone was caught doing donuts in the parking lot. There is a lot of expensive equipment housed within the Maintenance Facility, as well as pipe and stone stockpiled on the exterior. Tim got a quote from Dibert Electronix for \$2,500.00 dollars to install security cameras at the Maintenance Facility. This is the same company that installed the security cameras at the Office. Brendan asked if the cameras send the images to a secure location. Tim stated the images would be sent to a box within the Maintenance Facility. Motion was made to hire Dibert Electronix to install security cameras at the Maintenance Facility at a cost of \$2500.00 dollars. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 No (Cadwallader).

The #1 Pump at Baker's Pump Station has been removed and sent to RAM for repair. The Repair Estimate is \$6,545.00 dollars. A new pump would cost between \$60,000 - \$65,000 dollars.

Katie stated that the 2019 Annual Water Quality Report has been prepared and has been posted on our website. Copies were provided to each Board Member. Brendan had concerns about our 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for Lead being at 4.9 ppb and thought additional testing should be done at entry points or hydrants. Katie explained these tests are done by our customers on first draw water. Katie explained the 4.9 is an average attained from the 10 samples, including the one that was high, making our average high, but still well within the DEP approved Action Level of 15 ppb.

We received a refund of \$5,966.00 dollars from Selective for the portion of our Commercial Property and Workers Compensation Insurance Premium that was prepaid when we were with Teeter Group. Gingrich Agency does not require prepayment.

On April 14 of last year, our fire hydrant at the corner of Forsht Drive and Newry Lane was damaged as the result of a car accident by an uninsured motorist. We just received a pro-rata reimbursement of \$210.00 for the Deductible.

There was a concern that having funds exceeding the FDIC insured amount of \$250,000 with First Commonwealth Bank was not prudent. As a government agency, we are not allowed to deposit money into a financial institution over the \$250,000 FDIC insured amount unless the financial institution pledges collateral for the deposit. A Collateral Letter was provided to each Board Member.

Two of our Accounts with First Commonwealth Bank currently earn interest at 0.6%. Our Public Funds Money Market Account earns 1.51%. Motion was made to have Katie prepare a Transfer of \$350,000 from our General Account into our Public Funds Money

Market Account. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Ventre VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 No (Peterson).

Ted Ventre called upon tonight's Visitors to see if they had anything they wished to discuss. Eileen McKibbin of 624 Robertdale Drive told the Board she was questioning a \$50.00 Administrative Fee being added to her account when her payment had already been mailed. A discussion ensued about when a payment is actually paid. The BTWSA Rules and Regulations state that a payment must be received at the BTWSA Office on/by the Due Date. Robin Cadwallader stated she thought it was a law that you must go by the postmark on the envelope. Katie said she would check into this further. After discussion, motion was made to issue a credit of \$50.00 to Eileen McKibbin's account. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Kirk VOTE: 4 Yes.

Ted announced the next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held via Conference Call on June 3, 2020, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 8:12 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Kirk VOTE: 4 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,



Lowell H. Kirk

