

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, July 1, 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 4 Authority members as follows: Ted Ventre, Robin Cadwallader, Lowell Kirk, and Brendan Peterson. (Mary Bolt arrived late to the meeting as noted below.)

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

VISITORS:	Linda Adams	Robert Colondo	George Darr
Robert Eppihimer	Diana Hoover	Adam Hunter	Jim Logrando
Lynn Merrill	Kenneth Ott	Benjamin Schneider	Karen Schraff
Todd Wagner	Wayne Whysong	Richard Heininger	

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of June 3, 2020. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 4 Yes.

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

Mary Bolt entered the meeting 7:05 p.m.

Brendan and Robin co-authored a letter that was sent to all current BTWSA customers outlining the proposed Reservoir Road Sanitary Sewer Project and its possible impact on future bills. The emails, phone messages, and letters the office received were forwarded to each board member and our engineer prior to tonight's meeting so our customers' concerns could be addressed. Dan Carbaugh of Keller Engineers presented a summary of the Reservoir Road Sanitary Sewer Project. Ted Ventre, Chairman, explained that the next step is to have Keller Engineers prepare the design work and attain all the necessary permits so our project is "Dig Ready," making it more appealing in the eyes of the funding agencies. Brendan Peterson, Board Member, explained that the \$10 increase in our customers' sewer bills would be the absolute worst scenario, and that if the Funding Package we are offered isn't sufficient, the Project could be "pared down" into 3 phases to make it more affordable. Teleconference attendees expressed concerns about the high cost of the Project to serve only 228 homes, mandatory tap in, and what legal right BTWSA has to spread the cost of this project over the entire customer base instead of over only those affected by the project. Matt Gieg explained how loan documents have built-in contingencies such as mandatory hookups, rates, etc. Mary Bolt, Board Member, stated that she thought we should move forward with the design and planning. Brendan raised the question, "what happens if BTWSA does nothing?" In this case, the issue would be turned over to Luke Helsel, Sewage Enforcement Officer, who would identify

which property owners have a sewage problem and their options for fixing their problem. Robin Cadwallader, Vice Chairperson, expressed her concern for our current customers who cannot absorb these bill increases. Robin stated that our customers cannot “shop around” for sanitary sewer service like they can for internet service. Brendan suggested that we “leave no stone unturned” and check into funding sources for property owners so we have those options available for them, should this project proceed. It was decided to check into funding sources so costs can be kept as low as possible.

Matt Gieg reported that the Developer’s Agreement for Barneywood Phase II was recorded at the Courthouse. Also, the \$153,000.00 check issued to Gieg Law Offices to be held as Cash Bond for the Barneywood Phase II Project has been deposited into an Escrow Account that will be administered by Gieg Law Offices (acting as Escrow Agent for BTWSA).

Matt stated there is nothing new to report on the Vicki Claar Project at 646 Patrick Lane. We are still waiting for her contractor to submit engineering plans which will need reviewed by Keller Engineers.

Matt presented two Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS) Cash Balance Adoption Agreements and stated they are a formality that need renewed every 5 years. Motion was made to authorize Ted Ventre and Lowell Kirk to sign both PMRS Cash Balance Adoption Agreements. MOTION: Peterson SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 5 Yes. Matt presented Resolution 2020-2 which elects to amend its non-uniform pension plan administered by the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS) pursuant to Article IV of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law as amended and as applicable to member municipalities. Motion was made to adopt Resolution 2020-2 which elects to amend its non-uniform pension plan administered by the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS) pursuant to Article IV of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law as amended and as applicable to member municipalities. MOTION: Peterson SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 5 Yes.

Dan reported the Geographic Information System (GIS) Project for BTWSA is complete and operational. Tim McGaw, Manager, offered to have a demonstration for the Board at a subsequent Authority meeting.

Tim McGaw presented a Stuckey Ford CoStar quote on a 2020 Ford F-550 Crew Cab Dual-Wheeled Truck. The List Price of the Chassis w/options plus the Upfitting by Keith’s Truck Service comes to \$56,680.00. After deducting the \$20,000.00 Trade-In of the 2013 Ford F-350 and the \$11,580.00 CoStar/Dealer Discounts, the Total Cost comes to \$43,545.00 (including WeatherTech floor mats). Motion was made to purchase the 2020 Ford F-350 Crew Cab Dual-Wheeled Truck from Stuckey Ford as presented by Tim. MOTION: Kirk SECOND: Ventre VOTE: 2 Yes; 2 No (Peterson and Bolt); 1 Abstain (Cadwallader).

Katie McGaw reported that the Borough of Hollidaysburg refunded BTWSA \$7,418.00 based upon their 2019 Audit of operating costs at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Tim stated that we re-opened the Drive-Up Window for our customers today. During the temporary closure, all our customers found a way to pay without the use of a credit card, which made Tim look into the fees we pay to offer that payment option. Depending upon the month, between 77-99 people use their credit card at a cost to the Authority of between \$260 - \$320 per month. Tim suggested eliminating payment by credit card. But the Board Members thought we should check into other providers. Motion was made to accept cash, check, or money order for water & sewer payments and to discontinue using our current credit card provider, effective July 1, 2020, and to solicit 3 remedies for online payments by the October Authority meeting when this matter will be discussed further. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Kirk VOTE: 3 Yes (Ventre, Cadwallader, and Kirk); 2 No (Peterson and Bolt).

Ted announced the next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held via Conference Call on August 5, 2020, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 8:50 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,



Lowell H. Kirk



RESOLUTION NO. 2020-2

A RESOLUTION OF BLAIR TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY, BLAIR COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ELECTING TO AMEND ITS NON-UNIFORM PENSION PLAN ADMINISTERED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT LAW; AGREEING TO BE BOUND BY ALL PROVISIONS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT LAW AS AMENDED AND AS APPLICABLE TO MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES. IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY BLAIR TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY, BLAIR COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority (the Authority), having established a non-uniform pension plan administered by the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (the System), hereby elects to amend its Non-Uniform Pension Plan administered by the System in accordance with Article IV of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law, 53 P.S. §881.101 et seq. (Retirement Law), and does hereby agree to be bound by all the requirements and provisions of the Retirement Law and the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act, 53 P.S. §895.101 et seq., and to assume all obligations, financial and otherwise, placed upon member municipalities.

SECTION II. As part of this Resolution, the Authority agrees that the System shall administer and provide the benefits set forth in the amended Non-Uniform Pension Plan Document entered into between the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board and the Authority effective as of the date specified in the adoption agreement (the Contract).

SECTION III. The Authority acknowledges that by passage and adoption of this Resolution, the Authority officially accepts the Contract and the financial obligations resulting from the administration of the Contract.

SECTION IV. Payment for any obligation established by the adoption of this Resolution and the Contract shall be made by the Authority in accordance with the Retirement Law and the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act. The Authority hereby assumes all liability for any unfundedness created due to the benefit structure set forth in the Contract.

SECTION V. The Authority intends this Resolution to be the complete authorization of the Contract, as amended and it shall become effective as of the date specified in the adoption agreement, which is the effective date of the Contract, as amended.

SECTION VI. A duly certified copy of this Resolution and an executed Contract shall be filed with the System.

RESOLVED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2020

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ATTEST:

*Neil L. Kent*



Reviewed by PMRS Legal Counsel \_\_\_\_\_