

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, September 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., was called to order by Chairman Ted Ventre. This month's Authority meeting was rescheduled from September 1 to tonight due to heavy rain and flooding on September 1.

In attendance were 4 Authority members as follows: Ted Ventre, Brendan Peterson, Robin Cadwallader, and Edward Silvetti. (Mary Bolt was absent.)

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

VISITORS: Lisa Chiesa, Bond Counsel for BNY Mellon

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of August 4, 2021. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for August 2021. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Matt Gieg introduced Lisa Chiesa, Bond Counsel for BNY Mellon. Lisa joined us via phone to summarize the costs and savings of refinancing our 2013 Bonds with BNY Mellon. Interest Rates have come down substantially since 2013 and if the BTWSA were to refinance its Bonds the savings could be over \$222,000.00 dollars. Motion was made to request a Formal Proposal from BNY Mellon outlining the fees and potential savings to the Authority for refinancing our BNY Mellon Bonds. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 4 Yes.

Matt reported there was a meeting on 8/18/21 with Greg Werstil about the correct water meter placement at 141 NAC Drive. Mr. Werstil installed a Deduct Meter twice, but both times the meter was installed incorrectly and not as per the Settlement Agreement. Currently Mr. Werstil is getting billed Metered Sewer based upon the Altoona Water Meter reading. We will continue to bill him this way until Mr. Werstil contacts BTWSA to set up the logistical elements of this new meter and formally establish this new account.

Matt stated that Vicki Claar was billed for the \$177.70 that the Project Escrow did not cover. This amount has been paid, and now the Project at 646 Patrick Lane, Newry, is complete.

Matt said the Right-of-Way and Easement for 715 Loop Road was drawn up and recorded. Since everything was in order regarding the end of our sewer main and the connection from 715 Loop Road, BTWSA issued a Sewer Permit on 8/17/2021.

Dave Cunningham spoke with Trina Illig about CDBG Funding for the Reservoir Road Sewer Expansion Project. She is trying to find money to assist these residents with the expenses associated with a sanitary sewer connection. She stated a new Income Survey

must be done to be considered. If the Income Survey results in 51% or more of the residents being identified as having low to moderate income, there could be more CDBG money available.

Dave presented a Lost Water Cost Analysis and Inflow/Infiltration Cost Analysis as requested at the August Authority meeting. This is the first step in developing a Capital Improvement Plan.

Tim McGaw feels we should have Keller Engineers prepare the Engineering Study for the Reservoir Road Sewer Expansion Project so we are "Dig Ready" whenever funding for Sewer Infrastructure becomes available. This way, we would be able to submit application to RUS for a Funding Package. After considerable discussion, it was concluded that Keller Engineers should provide a Formal Proposal for the entire Reservoir Road Project Area (Phases I, II, and III) and a Formal Proposal for an Abridged Reservoir Road Project Area (Phases I and II) at the next meeting.

Tim reported that he had Matt Gieg check into the legal obligations of the Authority with respect to the maintenance of grinder pumps. Based upon the Right-of-Way, Easement and License Agreements provided to Matt, his professional opinion is that these facilities are privately owned and that the maintenance and all other responsibilities for the operation lie with the homeowner. There was discussion about informing the Grinder Pump Customers of their responsibility and advising them on what to do in the event of a grinder pump failure. Tim pointed out that local plumbers do not have the correct parts to repair this brand of grinder pump and was wary of the possibility of a non-licensed person attempting to repair a grinder pump.

Tim said that we recently repaired three water leaks. One was in the Harvest Glen Development and was probably due to the electrolysis in the ground eroding the copper pipe. The second repair was a private water leak on Hillsdale Drive. According to the plumber who made the repair, the homeowner knew the water lateral was leaking since March. When BTWSA installed a Water Meter Pit at this residence, the lateral was leaking at a rate of 2 gallons per minute, which calculates to 86,400 gallons per month. The third repair was a 4-inch water main on Peachview that was leaking at an estimated rate of 30,000 gallons per day. We have decreased our water loss by approximately 40,000 gallons per day.

Tim was contacted by Stu Sibold with an update on the Duncansville Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade. Construction Contracts have been awarded and construction is underway. Duncansville does not expect another invoice for the Rotary Press or Sludge Pumps until October when the equipment is due to be delivered.

Tim stated there was High Usage at 1100 Edgewood Drive whenever we read meters on 8/20/2021. When we downloaded the iPERL meter, the report showed 69,584 gallons had flowed through the meter between 7/20 and 8/20. But what was unusual was that every 12 hours the usage was exactly zero for 1 hour. The homeowner was contacted and BTWSA is sending this meter back to Sensus to have it calibrated. We will know if there is a problem with the meter in about 4 weeks.

Katie asked the Authority to review the completed Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System's Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) form in their folders. We are required to estimate our total payroll and what the total BTWSA contribution will be for 2022 and submit this form by September 30, 2021. Motion was made to have Katie submit the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System's Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) form for 2022, as presented. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Ted announced the next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on October 6, 2021, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 9:22 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,

Robin L. Cadwallader

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