

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority
 377 Cedarcrest Drive
 Duncansville, PA 16635

Wednesday, October 5, 2022

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority, held on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, at 7:12 p.m., was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Robin Cadwallader.

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

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

VISITORS: Clay Gingrich Paul Amigh
 Theresa Gillie

Robin stated there was an Executive Session held before tonight's meeting to discuss Personnel and Legal issues.

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of September 14, 2022. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 Abstain (Brendan Peterson).

While reviewing the Disbursements for September, a question was asked about the amount paid to Rutter's Farm Stores for gas for the trucks. Katie explained that we have begun paying ahead due to an issue with getting the bill paid before a late fee was applied. Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for September 2022. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Robin called upon the Visitors to see if anyone wanted to speak. Theresa Gillie (630 Peachdale Lane) stated that her finished basement has flooded multiple times due to backed up sewage. Her sewer lateral has a Backflow Preventor, but it isn't working. Tim McGaw, Manager explained the BTWSA maintenance personnel televised her sewer lateral a few months ago and found two sags in the line that are full of water. At that time, it was suggested that she repair the sags in the line and install a functional backflow preventor. Tim stated he would televise the sewer main in that area to see if there are any problems.

Clay Gingrich of Gingrich Insurance Agency presented the proposed rates for our Commercial Insurance Package for 2023. The Worker's Compensation has increased again due to a claim a couple years ago, but other than that, EMC offers very competitive rates in today's market. Motion was made to renew BTWSA's Commercial Policy Package at \$35,034.00 for 11/12/22 – 11/12/2023. MOTION: Peterson SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 4 Yes.

Matt Gieg, Solicitor, stated that he and Dave Cunningham met again to discuss the wording for Resolution 2022-9, which addresses property owners' responsibility to have their private sewer lateral pass an air or water test after a Sewer Main Replacement

Project. At last month's Authority Meeting, a suggestion was made to have the Authority's maintenance personnel perform the test to save property owners money. This change was added to the Resolution. It was pointed out that if a sewer lateral has no observation port at the residence, the owner would have to install this port for BTWSA to test the soundness of their lateral. Matt pointed out this rule exists to preserve the integrity of an improved system, and not to cause undue hardship on the homeowners. Motion was made to adopt Resolution 2022-9 which enacts a rule and regulation governing sanitary sewer compliance post BTWSA Main Sewer Line Replacement Projects. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 No (Mary Bolt).

Matt presented Resolution 2022-11 which establishes eligible Employees' Paid Holidays for 2023 and subsequent years. This topic was discussed at our September meeting: to eliminate the half-day holiday on Good Friday and to add Juneteenth National Independence Day and Columbus Day to the list of Holidays that BTWSA observes. Motion was made to adopt Resolution 2022-11 which amends the BTWSA Employee Handbook Section 302 and establishes eligible Employees' Paid Holidays for Calendar Year 2023 and subsequent years. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

Matt reported there has been a slight change in the Plans for the Hummingbird Daycare Facility due to the location of a gas line. Motion was made to approve the slightly altered Plans for the Hummingbird Daycare Facility. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 Abstain (Brendan Peterson). Due to this change, Matt prepared a new Developer's Agreement. Motion was made to approve the new Developer's Agreement for the Hummingbird Daycare Facility, subject to the Developer signing it and posting \$20,460.00 Security Bond (110% Project Cost). MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 Abstain (Brendan Peterson).

Dave Cunningham gave a Reservoir Road Project update. Keller Engineers is in the early stages of Permitting and are coordinating with PennDOT regarding their Paving Project in the summer of 2024. Badger Daylighting came on 9/30/2022 to positively locate the Sunoco pipeline but were unprepared and were unable to perform the work required. They will reschedule a return trip. We are at the point where we need to know the value of the land where the three pump stations will be located. Matt Gieg stated he knows John Stultz has worked on appraisals for other municipal government projects and feels he is very fair. Motion was made to authorize Keller Engineers to have John Stultz perform appraisals on the three properties where the pump stations will be located, at a cost of no more than \$750.00 per appraisal. MOTION: Bolt SECOND: Silvetti VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 No (Robin Cadwallader).

Mary Bolt left the Meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Dave reported there are new Grant Programs available for Water and Sewer Projects. The PA H2O Program is for projects ranging from \$500,000 to \$20 million and the Small Water and Sewer Program is for smaller projects costing up to \$500,000. After discussion, motion was made to authorize Keller Engineers to submit applications for the PA H2O Program (Reservoir Road) and the Small Water and Sewer Program (2023 Capital Improvement Project). MOTION: Peterson SECOND: Silvetti VOTE: 3 Yes.

Dave spoke with Trina Illig about the Income Survey of the Reservoir Road Project Area.

She is still waiting to get a determination on how to handle the incomes of the residents in the Group Homes.

Dave stated the 2022 Capital Improvement Project is coming along nicely. Diehl Contracting has installed the water main and attached the service lines in the Wye Switches Waterline Replacement Project. They have seeded and/or paved all disturbed areas. They will be mobilizing on Monday and will begin to dig on Tuesday for the Applewood Sewer Replacement Project.

Tim McGaw stated that he has been cleaning the Office since the COVID epidemic and would like to hire a Cleaning Service to come weekly. He got 3 estimates and would like to hire Dirtbusters at \$300.00/month. Motion was made to hire Dirtbusters to clean the Authority Office each week for \$300.00/month. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 3 Yes.

Katie McGaw stated the proposed Meeting Schedule for 2023 was in each Board Member's folder for review. According to the BTWSA By Laws, "Regular Meetings of the Authority shall be held on the first Wednesday of each month." After discussion, Motion was made to approve the 2023 Authority Meeting Schedule, as presented. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 3 Yes.

Katie reported that a 90-Day Delinquency Notice had been sent to Mike Zeigler of 16508 Dunnings Highway stating that \$462.89 had to be paid by 9/27/2022. Since then, a payment of \$290.00 was paid, with the promise of making an additional payment of \$200.00 tomorrow. Katie stated that normally she would be asking for a vote to pursue equitable relief, but thought the Board might want to discuss this further. It was decided to wait until next month.

Robin announced the next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on November 2, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 8:39 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 3 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,



Edward M. Silvetti



Resolution No. – 2022 – 9

Resolution of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Amending the Rules and Regulations for Wastewater, Enacting a Rule and Regulation Governing Sanitary Sewer Compliance Post Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Main Sewer Line Replacement Projects

It is hereby resolved by the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority as follows:

1. The Rule and Regulation promulgated and enacted by this Resolution shall hereafter become Section 18 of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Rules and Regulations for Wastewater.
2. The Rates Summary Sheet shall hereafter become Section 19 of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Rules and Regulations for Wastewater.
3. Section 18 of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Wastewater Rules and Regulations is hereby enacted as follows:

Section 18 – Sanitary Sewer Compliance Post Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Main Sewer Line Replacement Projects

The following Rule and Regulation is applicable to all owners of improved real property affected by main sewer line replacement project areas:

Property Owners' Responsibility After Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Main Sewer Line Replacement Projects

At the completion of all Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority ("BTWSA") main sewer line replacement projects, all customers that have been provided sanitary sewer

service by BTWSA must successfully pass an air or water pressure test as hereinafter set forth.

1. In the case where the sides of a double house, townhouse or multi-unit structure are owned by the same owner, and each side has its own separate building drain and building sewer piping connected to a BTWSA lateral, both sides are required to perform the noted testing. If each side does not have a separate building drain or building sewer and separate lateral, the plumbing of both sides of the structure must be reconfigured so as to provide separate systems. If a separate lateral is needed in order to allow for such separation, BTWSA will provide the second lateral to the property line free of charge. Subsequently, both sides of the structure must successfully pass said test.
2. This Regulation requires that all buried and under-slab sewer piping, both outside and inside the foundation wall (most often identified as the building drain and building sewer) be tested for water tightness. Such testing must be witnessed and approved by BTWSA. Any property subject to this section not successfully passing such a test and/or any property which does not first obtain a certification thereof from BTWSA shall be in violation of BTWSA's Rules and Regulations and shall be subject to penalties as hereinafter set forth.
3. With regard to the testing required under and pursuant to this Resolution, BTWSA personnel shall perform said testing one time, free of charge, for each property Owner required to perform such testing. In the event it is determined by BTWSA personnel that the affected property fails the testing requirements herein, the

Owner shall have the option, at the Owner's sole cost and expense, to have an independent test performed, subject, however, to the terms and conditions as hereinafter set forth.

4. A residential property is exempt from sewer testing if the Owner can provide documentation that the Owner's property successfully passed an air or water pressure test, as set forth in section five (5) below, during the previous five (5) years and that no alterations, repairs, replacements or additions were performed on the varied, buried and/or under-slab sewer piping (both inside and outside the foundation wall). The Owner shall provide such documentation as is required by BTWSA, including access to perform visual inspections as are deemed necessary by BTWSA to establish that said piping has not been altered in any way since the prior testing.
5. As part of the completion of the subject main sewer line replacement project, BTWSA shall install a new viewport at the right-of-way line or edge of easement demarcating the end of the BTWSA-owned lateral and the beginning of the Customer-owned lateral. The Owner of property shall install or cause to be installed, in accordance with BTWSA's specifications, any additional viewports necessary to complete the aforesaid testing. If a viewport already exists on the property, but is not visible or easily accessible, the Owner shall expose said viewport. All of the foregoing shall be at the sole cost and expense of the Owner. Existing viewports shall not be required to be upgraded to current standards unless

said viewport is being replaced as part of repair work to be performed as a result of the test results.

6. Acceptable testing methods:

- a. Testing by water wherein all buried and under-slab piping (both inside and outside the foundation) is filled with water and a temporary water column is introduced to a minimum of ten (10) feet of head to the highest portion of the buried and under-slab piping, with no water loss observed during a fifteen (15) minute period; or
- b. Testing by air wherein all buried and under-slab piping is pressurized with air to a minimum of five (5) pounds per square inch (5 psi) and thereafter held for a period of fifteen (15) minutes with no noticeable pressure drop.
- c. For details of such acceptable testing, see § 312 of the *International Plumbing Code (IPC)* as contained in the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code, as amended.

7. Requests for inspection or witnessing of the testing must be made a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the requested time. BTWSA will allow a maximum of one (1) hour per test, and the witnessing shall be for the actual test itself, not for preliminary hook up or other work which precedes the actual test. In the event that the property does not pass the initial test, BTWSA will charge a fee, paid in advance at BTWSA's office, for each and every re-test that is necessary (see rates and fees). (NOTE: It is the intent of this Regulation that BTWSA's inspector is scheduled only to witness a passing air / water test). BTWSA's

inspector shall make the sole determination as to when the actual testing period commences and thereafter when the fifteen (15) minute duration of the test has expired. Upon successful completion of the testing, BTWSA's inspector shall signify his or her approval by affixing his or her signature and dating the completed "Sanitary Sewer Inspection / Testing Form".

8. In the event that the property does not pass the initial test, it shall be the responsibility of the Owner, at the Owner's sole cost and expense, to make such repairs or adjustments as necessary to the lateral, building drain, or building sewer to successfully pass a subsequent test.

Hardship Extension

1. In cases where complying with these Regulations would cause an undue hardship, the Owner may request a hardship extension request, which may be granted at the sole discretion of BTWSA. This hardship extension provision only allows the applicant to delay the repair for a period of up to sixty (60) days.
2. Application for a hardship extension may be made at BTWSA's office by: completing a Time Extension Agreement; providing proof of a bona fide contract, which states the contractor will perform the work required to bring the property into compliance; and providing proof that the funds required to bring the property into compliance have been escrowed or otherwise set aside to pay for the necessary work.

Enforcement

1. Any violation of these Regulations is hereby declared to be a summary offense in accordance with § 5607(d)(17) of the Municipality Authorities Act and shall be punishable by a fine of up to three hundred dollars (\$300.00) for each offense. Each and every day that a violation of these Regulations exists shall be a separate and distinct offense.
2. The requirements of these Regulations may be enforced by BTWSA in an action in equity filed in the Court of Common Pleas of Blair County, Pennsylvania. In the event such an action is commenced by BTWSA to enforce the requirements of these Regulations, BTWSA shall be entitled to all appropriate equitable relief, including, but not limited to, preliminary and permanent injunctive relief, attorney's fees incurred by BTWSA and all costs of suit.
3. I&I (infiltration and inflow) creates a potential public health hazard and a public nuisance, as it greatly increases the possibility of sewer discharge into the waterways of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in violation of law and BTWSA's Rules and Regulations. Accordingly, BTWSA may discontinue water and/or sanitary sewer service, in its sole discretion, for any violation of these Regulations. The cost of terminating said service(s) and the restoration thereof shall be the responsibility of the customer / Owner of the property receiving the service(s) that have been disconnected and/or restored.

Effective Date

The above-enacted Rule and Regulation shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority.

This Resolution has been adopted on this 5 day of October, 2022, by official action and vote at a public meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority.

ATTEST:

Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority



Secretary



Chairman



Resolution No. – 2022 – 11

Resolution of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Amending Section 302 of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority's Employee Handbook and Establishing Employees' Paid Holidays for Calendar Year 2023 and Subsequent Years

WHEREAS, Section 302 of BTWSA's Employee handbook provides for holiday paid time off to all eligible BTWSA employees; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Resolution is to amend Section 302 of BTWSA's Employee Handbook with regard to the specific holidays for which eligible BTWSA employees will received holiday paid time off in calendar year 2023 and subsequent years.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved as follows:

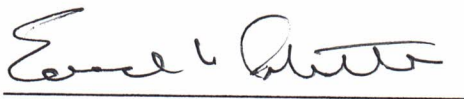
1. BTWSA will grant holiday paid time off to all eligible BTWSA employees on the holidays / days listed below in calendar year 2023 and subsequent years:
 - New Year's Day
 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
 - Presidents' Day
 - Memorial Day
 - Juneteenth
 - Independence Day
 - Labor Day
 - Columbus Day


- Veteran's Day
 - Thanksgiving
 - Day after Thanksgiving
 - Christmas Day
2. Aside from the above, all other provisions contained in Section 302 of BTWSA's Employee Handbook shall remain in full force and effect.
 3. All specifically-designated holidays / days referenced in paragraph 1 of this Resolution shall be the holidays / days on which eligible BTWSA employees will received paid holiday time off for calendar year 2023 and each year thereafter, unless or until BTWSA modifies the same by official action and vote.
 4. This Resolution shall become effective January 1, 2023.

This Resolution was adopted by official action and vote by the members of BTWSA at a public meeting held on the 5 day of October, 2022.

ATTEST:

Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority


Secretary


Chairman

