

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

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority, held on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., was called to order by Chairman Ted Ventre.

In attendance were four Authority members as follows: Ted Ventre, Robin Cadwallader, Edward Silveti, and Brendan Peterson. (Mary Bolt arrived late to the meeting as noted below.)

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

VISITORS: Paul Amigh

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of May 4, 2022. MOTION: Silveti SECOND: Ventre VOTE: 3 Yes. 1 Abstain. (Brendan Peterson)

Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for May 2022. MOTION: Silveti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 4 Yes.

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

Matt Gieg updated the Authority on the Jacob Defibaugh (9215 Charger Highway) matter. There was a Court Hearing held on May 20, 2022, at which Judge Doyle authorized BTWSA to immediately plug and cap the sewer lateral at 9215 Charger Highway. Due to the Court Order, Tim McGaw spoke to Chief Roger White and Sergeant Roger Peacock (Blair Township Police) about having the police Red Tag the house after BTWSA caps the line. Roger Peacock made a phone call to Ron Defibaugh (Jacob's father), who then called Tim. Shortly after he'd spoken with Ron, Tim received a call from Jacob. They agreed to meet at his residence to discuss a solution. After showing Jacob what needed done, Tim gave him until 5/31 to have it completed. On the morning of 5/31, Tim met with Jacob at his residence and inspected the sewer line repair. Initially, the old sump pump pit had been hooked into the sanitary sewer line. To remedy this, Jacob cut this connection apart and installed a new sump pump that drains out into the backyard. As for his bill, Jacob's balance is \$6,224.28 (\$108.38 Sewer Treatment and Penalties + \$2,715.90 Legal fees + \$3,400.00 BTWSA Fines for 3/14 - 5/20). The Court Order also allows for the capping of the sewer lateral if Legal fees and Fines go unpaid. Motion was made to table the Jacob Defibaugh issue until the 7/13/2022 BTWSA Meeting. MOTION: Silveti SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 5 Yes. The Board asked Tim to speak with Jacob's Dad about the Court Order and to see if a Payment Schedule can be arranged.

Matt stated the Authority has been having some difficulty with attendance at meetings, so Tim had him check into the total number of Board Members the Authority can have. The number of Board Members on the Authority is determined by the Blair Township Supervisors. Paul Amigh, Blair Twp Supervisor, stated that they could appoint an Alternate Authority Board Member, but there were some technicalities that would need ironed out, such as do they get paid whether or not they are needed, etc.

Dave Cunningham said BTWSA's 2022 Capital Improvement Project has been advertised for bid. Important dates to make note of are the Pre-Bid Conference will be held on Wed., June 29 at 10 a.m. and the Bid Opening is on Wed., July 6 at 10 a.m. Bid will be awarded at the July 13 Authority meeting.

Dave stated that Field Work is finished in the Reservoir Road Project area. Paul Amigh stated that Trina Illig has provided the Blair Township Supervisors with the names and addresses of residents that have not completed the Income Survey. Two of the Supervisors, Betty Robertson, and the new girl plan to go door-to-door to get additional Income Surveys completed.

Dave reported that with the uncertain economy, many Authorities are re-evaluating their Annual Budgets and adjusting Water and Sewer Rates accordingly. Brendan Peterson suggested that this would be a good time to remedy the disparity between the Sewer and Water Rates. Dave Cunningham stated that he has all the data needed to arrive at a number. He will be happy to provide that to the Board at the next meeting.

Tim McGaw stated The Authority employees have 10-1/2 Paid Holidays each year. There are two National Holidays (Juneteenth and Columbus Day) that are not Paid Holidays, Tim asked the Board to consider adding one or both of these days to the Observed Holidays for all employees. It was mentioned that two of the currently Observed Holidays are not National Holidays (1/2 day on Good Friday and Day After Thanksgiving). The Board decided to take no action at this time.

Tim said we got a call from Dave Worthing of M & T Bank about our Fort Fetter Loan. In the Loan documents, it states "as of June 7, 2022, the Authority may elect a variable rate of interest or fix the interest rate for any term up to final maturity." Our loan currently has a Fixed Rate of 4.57%. As of yesterday, Dave offered a new Fixed Rate of 3.7% for the remainder of the term, at no charge to the Authority. Motion was made to authorize Tim McGaw to instruct Dave Worthing of M & T Bank to modify our Loan Repayment Agreement to reflect the new, lower interest rate of 3.7%, as long as there are no hidden fees or charges. MOTION: Ventre SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 5 Yes.

Katie reported we received Hollidaysburg's 2021 Audit. As per their Reconciliation, BTWSA owes them an additional \$2,533.00 for 2021 Sewer Treatment.

Ted announced the next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on July 13, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 8:15 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,

Edward M. Silvetti

