

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

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority, held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Ted Ventre.

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

Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of February 1, 2023. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Silvetti VOTE: 4 Yes.

Motion was made to approve the Payroll & Bills for February 2023. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 4 Yes.

Brendan Peterson entered the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Matt Gieg, Solicitor, wanted to call the Board's attention to the fact that his fees for Placing and Satisfying Liens have gone up from \$15.00 to \$25.00 dollars for each. Katie McGaw added that the Courthouse Lien Filing Fee is \$27.00 and the Courthouse Lien Satisfaction Fee is \$11.00, resulting in a total cost to BTWSA of \$88.00 to Place and Satisfy a Lien. Currently, BTWSA charges customers an \$80.00 Lien Fee as per our Rates Summary Sheet. There was discussion about changing BTWSA's Lien Fee, but since we just adopted BTWSA's Rates Summary Sheet for 2023, it was decided to wait. Motion was made to acknowledge the increase in Lien Fees charged to BTWSA from a total of \$80.00 to \$88.00, but to keep our Customer Charge for Lien Fees at \$80.00 until a later date. MOTION: Bolt SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 5 Yes. Motion was made to accept the increase in Lien Fees charged by Matt Gieg, Esquire, from \$15.00 to \$25.00 (to place each lien) and \$15.00 to \$25.00 (to satisfy each lien). MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Cadwallader VOTE: 5 Yes.

Dave Cunningham presented a set of working drawings of the Reservoir Road Project. They will remain at BTWSA's Office for the Board Members to look over. Keller Engineers continues to work on obtaining environmental, highway, and railroad permits. Allegheny Utility Solutions (AUS) returned in February to hydro-excavate the Buckeye and Enterprise gas lines on Reservoir Road. Dave spoke with Trina Illig today about the Income Study on Reservoir Road. Unfortunately, BTWSA is still not CDBG eligible. She stated that 31 or 32 residents have still not responded. Ted Ventre asked Dave if he could obtain a list of non-respondents from Trina so that these folks could be contacted again. Dave stated that Trina offered a possible solution of breaking the Project Area into three contracts and applying the current income data to each of these three contracts. This creative approach could possibly make one or two of the contracts CDBG eligible.

Dave reported that when AUS positively located the Buckeye and Enterprise gas lines on Reservoir Road, they also positively located the Buckeye and Enterprise gas lines on Country View Drive in preparation of the 2023 Capital Improvement Project. Keller Engineers has prepared the Project documents necessary to advertise for bids for this project. Motion was made to authorize Keller Engineers to advertise for bids for the 2023 Capital Improvement Project: Waterline Replacement on Country View Drive. MOTION: Bolt SECOND: Silvetti VOTE: 5 Yes.

Dave stated that all comments on the H2O PA and the PA Small Water and Sewer Program grant applications have been addressed. Now we just have to wait for the decisions, which are scheduled to come out in July 2023.

The Chapter 94 letters (about our sanitary sewer system) were prepared by Keller Engineers and were sent to Hollidaysburg, Duncansville, and Freedom Township. The Chapter 110 Report (about our water distribution system) will be prepared in March and submitted to DEP.

Tim McGaw, Manager, stated that he has reviewed our Rules and Regulations regarding entry of storm water into our sanitary sewer. A handout was included in each Board Member's folder showing Wastewater Sections 7.08 and 8.01. Upon review, motion was made to amend Wastewater Section 7.08 by fixing the typographical error "wiring" to "writing" and various punctuation. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Silvetti VOTE: 5 Yes. Robin Cadwallader is going to edit Wastewater Section 8.01 to make it grammatically correct.

Tim obtained a quote from AUS for Leak Detection on our water system in the Pleasant View Estates development. AUS will place correlators on our water structures to detect water leaks. The correlators will be programmed to work overnight, and after the data is analyzed, AUS will prepare a report of their findings and mark potential leaks with paint. The quote is for \$1,250.00. Motion was made to authorize AUS to perform Leak Detection in the Pleasant View Estates development for \$1,250.00 dollars as per the Proposal dated 2/7/2023. MOTION: Peterson SECOND: Silvetti VOTE: 5 Yes.

Tim reported that we have a leaky manhole out near Baker's Pump Station. Our maintenance personnel have injected it with 2-stage Hydraulic Cement multiple times, but it continues to leak. There is a company called SKN Contracting out of Osterburg, PA, that applies Parsons Environmental Products to rehabilitate sanitary sewer manholes. Tim obtained a quote from SKN Contracting to rehabilitate this manhole by using Parson Quick Plug (a high strength hydraulic cement), Parsons Seal-tite (chemical grout injection), and ½" Parson MH Liner (high strength, fiber reinforced, microsilica enhanced cement) for \$2,568.00 dollars. Motion was made to hire SKN Contracting for Manhole Rehabilitation of the manhole along Route 36/Charger Highway near Baker's Pump Station for \$2,568.00 dollars. MOTION: Silvetti SECOND: Peterson VOTE: 5 Yes.

During routine sewer system maintenance along Charger Highway, our maintenance personnel noticed extra water running into the lateral at 9215 Charger Highway. It would run awhile and then stop. And then it would run again. When they checked into the source, they found that a sump pump was pumping water from inside the home to an

exterior sump pump, which was pumping water into the sewer lateral. The guys televised the sewer lateral with our sewer camera and found an illegal discharge-line hooked into the sewer lateral. The maintenance men called Tim to report what they had found. After seeing it for himself, Tim called Matt Gieg for legal advice. This illegal discharge is on the property owned by Jacob Defibaugh. We have a standing court order about illegal discharge regarding Mr. Defibaugh. After discussion, motion was made to authorize BTWSA personnel to go onto the property at 9215 Charger Highway and correct the illegal discharge violation by cutting the sump pump line that is discharging storm water into our sanitary sewer and to bill the homeowner for time and materials, pursuant to the Court Order. Matt Gieg will follow up by sending a letter to Mr. Defibaugh, owner. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Silvetti VOTE: 5 Yes.

Katie McGaw stated that she would like to transfer funds from our General Account to our Public Funds Money Market Account to take advantage of a higher interest rate. The Money Market account is earning 3.5% interest compared to the 0.65% interest that is being earned by the other two accounts. Katie feels comfortable transferring between \$380,000.00 and \$400,000.00 dollars and asked the Board to approve this transfer. After discussion, motion was made to authorize Katie to transfer \$500,000.00 dollars from the FNB General Account to the FNB Public Funds Money Market Account. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 5 Yes. Brendan Peterson wanted to make sure BTWSA money is insured over the \$250,000.00 FDIC limit. Katie stated she has gotten a Collateral Letter from the Bank in the past that assures all accounts are collateralized, but she will double check to make sure this is still the case.

Ted called upon Jim Jackson, visitor, to see if he had any questions or concerns. Jim stated that he is in favor of the sewer expansion out on Reservoir Road.

Ted announced the next Regular Monthly Meeting will be held on April 5, 2023, at 7 p.m.

Motion was made (at 8:16 p.m.) to adjourn the Meeting. MOTION: Cadwallader SECOND: Bolt VOTE: 5 Yes.

Signed as Secretary/Treasurer,

Edward M. Silvetti

