

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
OCTOBER 1, 2019

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

The following members were present: Chairman M. Stoudt, Vice Chairman J. Bubacz, Jr., Treasurer J. Eckman and Secretary S. Hall. Absent: P. Bauman who called Leesa to say he would be out of town. Also present was G. Lloyd, Borough Manager and L. Lazouras, Recording Secretary.

GUESTS

Mat Landis, C&N Bank

Chairman Stoudt called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

MINUTES

The minutes from the regular meeting 9/3/19 were brought up for discussion. There being none, a motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by S. Hall, "That the minutes be approved as read." All in favor.

BILLS BE PAID

Unpaid bills for sewer \$25,982.54

Unpaid bills for water \$25,401.12+\$9,264.76 Penn Vest monthly payment

\*Sewer-interest new STP loan-when received monthly

After going over the bills, a motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That the bills be paid." All in favor.

J. Eckman asked who paid for the fall town clean up and George said NTSWA does it but the Boro pays.

TREASURER'S REPORT

J. Eckman reported the balance in sewer of \$96,009.72 and in water \$54,079.83. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by S. Hall, "That the Treasurer's report be accepted subject to audit." All in favor.

GUESTS

J. Eckman had asked Deb Scott from C&N to attend to discuss our investments with them, but Matt Landis came in her place. J. Eckman had passed out the last investment report for August to the members. The September report is not available yet.

Matt went over the monthly statement with the members. He discussed the Feds lowering rates and how the value increased and how they will work back down. He also had a chart showing the purchase cost, market price, market value and unrealized gain/loss. Our CD's were laddered and have different maturity dates, from 11/26/19 to 10/24/2023. The interest rates are from 2.650% up to 3.450%.

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He also discussed interest rates on brokerage and in house C&N CD's. All accounts are covered by FDIC. At the current time we are having the earned interests deposited into our regular money market account to be used if needed. J. Eckman said if we were to have the interest going back into the CD's, the account values would increase and we would have more in the future when we decide how to reinvest. We opened our CD's at a good time of year with better interest rates.

Leesa asked him what will happen when the first CD matures on 11/26, and does he advise us. He will contact us a week ahead of the due date, with the new interest rates. S. Hall said we will have to decide at our next meeting which will be on November 5.

Matt was thanked for his presentation and left the meeting at 7:25 PM.

OLD BUSINESS:

A.) WATER UPDATE

Dan has been looking for leaks. The usage is up to 30 gpm or 40,000 gpd. Consumption runs at 110,000 normal and is up to 140,000 gpd. We will call PRWA to come to pinpoint any located leaks.

B.) DELINQUENTS

Cheryl sent more notices out and has two that will be turned off on Thursday if they don't come in. The boys are painting road lines tomorrow.

C.) INFILTRATION-LETTER TO DEP

Nothing

D.) WATER FUTURE I-99/BUSINESS 15 CORRIDOR

They hope to have an answer from RUS by the end of the year and that it is enough to keep the customers charges lower.

E.) TAYLOR RUN-SOUTHWESTERN

Erica from Forestry had talked with Josh Farer who is a biologist with DEP. The project is closed out. George is to ask her to get an email or confirmation letter from DEP if not from Southwestern, so we have something in writing for our file. Everyone is very happy with the work which was done.

F.) CASSELBERRY

George has called Jim but has not heard back. We are ok for now since all our documents are submitted, and possibly George could contact SRBC if he doesn't hear from Jim.

G.) OLD HOSPITAL

Nothing

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H.) HYDRO-LETTER-S. BRAY TALKED WITH THEM

An email was received from Hydro that they are going to rescind their rights to sell fresh water from the Route 15 well. Hydro is not able to place a storage tank adjacent to the well as the property lease has expired. Along with that, the cost to build out a plumbing infrastructure to transport water from the Route 15 well to the Hydro bulk storage tank. Also, the current sources for fresh water that Hydro maintains is meeting their client needs. Several years of data justify that there isn't enough demand for Hydro to have rights to sell fresh water from the Route 15 well.

Our agreement with Hydro expires 7/19/2020. The parties can terminate the Agreement by giving at least 120 days written notice prior to the end of any term without penalty.

I.) PIPELINE BY TR

S. Bray sent our paperwork to DEP for review a few weeks ago, and it was tied in with the million gallon tank and new well at Taylor. We hope to hear this year so we can be ready to start in the spring. M. Stoudt suggested if we don't hear from them this month, we contact them for an update.

J.) INTERNET AND SOFTWARE PAY BILLS ON LINE

This is now working and Leesa said about ten customers have used it. Leesa set up a separate category on the books to keep track of this use. All in agreement this can be taken off the agenda.

K.) NEW STP

This is still in review. If we hear soon we can bid out in the winter. The crossing to the new plant has been submitted to DEP but don't expect to hear back until spring. It will have to be done when the water level is down in the river. M. Stoudt said if we do not hear soon, we can inquire on the review.

L.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

We are going ahead with the pilot study for a poly unit filter.

M.) BR GENERATOR

Steve at Stuart Lisowski's is doing the repair work on it.

N.) BR DAM

We are working on this and S. Bray just got information back from Duane Wetmore.

O.) PAINT BR TANK

The cleaning was completed. It would have to be drained to be painted as there would be too much sweat on the outside. This is on hold for now.

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P.) CYBERSECURITY

J. Bubacz will have more information for Cheryl and George to look over. It is another cost to consider which is not cheap. They will bring the information back to the members.

Q.) DAN'S VAN-TRUCK

The paperwork has been prepared and the order will be placed this week. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we pay for the truck out of the Royalties MMI." All in favor.

R.) DEP LETTER WTP ALARMS-NOTICE OF VIOLATION

July 26<sup>th</sup> was our first letter from them saying we may need to make additional improvements to comply and if we expect to be in full compliance by 8/19 call or email them to confirm our status. If you need to make extensive capital improvements that extend beyond 8/19, they may approve in writing an alternate compliance schedule if you submit a written request by 8/19.

S. Bray and George sent a response to them dated 8/13. Modifications could be accomplished within 90 days after the concept is approved. That would be in addition to any time needed for regulatory review. The procedure to shut down Bellman per Dan was also submitted.

A "Notice of Violation" reply was received dated 9/13 that they became aware through George's letter that the plant is not staffed continuously, and not equipped with the alarm and shutdown capabilities that meet their requirements. This is a deficiency and we have to consult with them regarding the appropriate corrective action within thirty days; respond in writing no later than 45 days from the date of their letter how and what the repair schedule is; and correct the deficiencies within 120 days.

We have been in contact with LRM and we think in 2-3 weeks we can be corrected. Next month we would be up and ready for DEP to look at it. S. Bray will contact DEP about our plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) HRG REQUEST #12

Request #12 from the line of credit in the amount of \$5,186.27 for the new sewer plant has to be signed and submitted to RUS for payment. This covers 8/5-9/1/19 for engineering. S. Bray has reviewed it already. After going over the request, a motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Eckman, "That this bill be approved for payment." All in favor. J. Bubacz and S. Hall will sign the five copies of the request.

B.) Audit is being worked on. We will pay the Forestry Dept. on the annual lease to obtain water from State Forest land when completed. This is 1/2 of 1% of water taken out of the stream.

C.) The B&D hydrant report for water drawn was prepared by Dan and given to the members.

D.) We did not receive the Royalty report or payment #21 from Repsol yet.

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E.) J. Eckman informed the members that CD#25 and #28 with FCCB mature 9/14/21, interest rate 2.45%; #26 matures 3/14/22, interest rate 2.50%; and #27 on 3/14/23, interest rate 2.60%. We had withdrawn money from the Royalty MMI to invest in these laddered CD's. The interest for these 4 goes back into themselves. The balance in the Royalty MMI account is starting to build up again, so we should consider investing some more and he will watch the terms and rates available.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:45PM, motion by J. Bubacz, second S. Hall with all in favor.

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CHAIRMAN

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SECRETARY