

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
NOVEMBER 5, 2019

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

The following members were present: Vice Chairman J. Bubacz, Jr., Treasurer J. Eckman, Secretary S. Hall and member P. Bauman. Absent: Chairman M. Stoudt. Also present was G. Lloyd, Borough Manager and L. Lazouras, Recording Secretary.

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

MINUTES

The minutes from the previous meeting held 10/1/19 were brought up for discussion. There being none, a motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by P. Bauman, "That the minutes be approved as read." All in favor.

BILLS

Unpaid bills for sewer \$28,578.26

Unpaid bills for water \$38,033.24+\$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. Eckman, "That the bills be paid." All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer J. Eckman reported the balance in sewer of \$127,290.90 and in water \$60,162.17.

S. Hall asked if this was the balance in our checking account and Leesa said this is in our operating money market accounts and the money is then transferred into our checking accounts for bill payments. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by P. Bauman, seconded by S. Hall, "That the treasurer's report be accepted subject to audit." All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

A.) WATER UPDATE

George reported Dan has been checking for leaks but nothing major is happening. This is an ongoing project. J. Bubacz asked where the water line is located going up the Morris Run Road, as when he was running he noticed a wet spot. George said the water is on the right and the sewer on the left.

B.) DELINQUENTS

George said Cheryl is working on them. There are few due to be shut off later this week if they don't come in.

C.) INFILTRATION-LETTER TO DEP

We have not heard back from them. Last week on 10/31 we had 1.6" of rain causing a high flow at the pump house. We shut the pump off 11/1 and bypassed about 0.312 MGD of sewer flow. A letter was sent to DEP.

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D.) WATER FUTURE I-99/BUSINESS 15 CORRIDOR
UTRA is hoping to hear back from RUS by December.

E.) TAYLOR RUN-SOUTHWESTERN
George had left a message for Ericka to find out who to contact for sending a confirmation letter that the project is closed out, but he has not heard from her.

F.) CASSELBERRY
George has not heard from him.

G.) OLD HOSPITAL
Nothing

H.) HYDRO-SRBC BILL
Hydro is not doing anything with the salt well across from the Arnot Road. They got permitted and spent a lot of money but have not gotten anyone to purchase water from them. We have been getting this bill annually since 2012 which we pay and then rebill Hydro. The bill is a fee for the compliance and monitoring of the Route 15 well, in the amount of \$950.00. Leesa received a notice from SRBC that we did not pay the fee for this year, but they also knew Hydro was working on a proposal for up there so that could be the reason. Leesa gave the information to George. He will check with S. Bray to see if we should still pay this bill. If we don't pay it he will also ask what will happen.

I.) PIPELINE BY TAYLOR RUN
We have not gotten the permit yet from DEP. We have done some maintenance work and extended the water line 100 feet to put a hydrant in. They also leveled off the road to take the bumps out. George hopes to start the line next year. The line will be sloped gradually so there will be no air in the pipe. Dan did the elevation which S. Bray verified. They also are clearing out trees by the sand pit. The tank will be in the middle. At the top a fence will be installed around it. They put sand around the bottom of the line for insulation.

J.) NEW STP-REPLY FROM DEP 9/26/19
A letter was received that they reviewed the application package for completeness. This is the first in a series of reviews. It contains sufficient detail so they can conduct the technical review and has been accepted for that purpose. It will go to the technical review and evaluated if sufficient information exists to render a decision on the technical merits. Pursuant to the permit review process and permit decision guarantee policy, it now qualifies for the permit decision guarantee. The timeframe is 93 business days to determine if it is technically adequate and scientifically sound for a permit decision. S. Hall noted that it is business days not just 93 total days. S. Bray hopes we can get the bids out in the new two months. He is reviewing the designs like at the College and Wellsboro.

K.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION-S. Bray working on this.

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L.) BR GENERATOR

The guy is working on hoses and the motor to fix any oil leaks.

M.) BR DAM

S. Bray is getting the information together to submit to DEP for the sediment pond. We will not do the work until next summer when the water level is down.

N.) PAINT BR TANK

O.) CYBERSECURITY

The Boro had requested cost quotes and got three. J. Bubacz looked at them briefly but will go over them further and set up a time to review them.

P.) DAN'S VAN, TRUCK

The down payment was made on the new truck bed to Watson Diesel out of the Royalties MMI.

Q.) DEP LETTER WTP ALARMS-NOTICE OF VIOLATION

We sent back a response letter to them with our plans. Dan set up a way for us to be called out before it shuts down. LRM was here and they installed a new chart recorder. They removed the old paper recorder and installed a new digital which is wired with alarms and tested it back to the dialer. That bill is on our list to be paid. S. Bray is working on the letter to inform them of this and to ask when they can come inspect it. P. Bauman asked if that means we are not in violation, and George said we feel that our work should make it in compliance.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) HRG REQUEST #13

A progress report was received and in the packets. Request #13 from the line of credit in the amount of \$20,776.39 for the new sewer plant has to be signed and submitted to RUS for payment. This covers 9/2-9/29/19 for engineering. S. Bray has reviewed it already. After going over the request, a motion was made by P. Bauman, 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

The audit is completed for 2018 and their bill approved for payment. They had asked if we could pay them this week and Leesa said we could. They also filed our annual reports. S. Hall asked if it was alright and Leesa said yes and copies are available for the members. She has to make the payment to Forestry on the annual lease to obtain water from State Forest land which is 1/2 of 1% of water taken out of the stream. She will figure this out and include a page out of the report. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by P. Bauman, "That this payment be sent." All in favor.

C.) REPSOL ROYALTY #21 CHECK RECEIVED

Statement #22 was received and the check should come next week.

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D.) UTRA UPDATE AGREEMENT-SELL WATER TO THEM

The members were sent copies of the proposed changes to the original agreement, per the request of Mary Beth from RUS. The changes proposed are in red: 1.) The date has to be changed. 2.) Our address changed. E.) Meter vault should be meter building. F.) Capital Contribution toward existing facilities.-The amount is \$167,420.00 based on 100% of the capacity portion of \$2.10 per gallon and 15% of the distribution portion of \$1.91 per gallon. (Total fee per gallon is \$2.39). Payment due 60 days prior to substantial completion. G.) Rates-initial bulk rate will be \$3.45/1,000 gallons. The agreement is valid for five years, at which time may be terminated by either party upon 120 days written notice. It will renew automatically upon satisfaction of both parties. Rate changes they are to be notified at least 60 days in advance. J. Eckman suggested in the entire document that we are the BMA Authority and they should not be just "Authority", as it is confusing. They should be UTRA. George said this can be changed. S. Hall asked what their usage will be and George said it is limited to 70,050 gallons per day. P. Bauman asked if we have a similar agreement with Hamilton Twp., and we do. J. Eckman thought there was a legacy cost in Hamilton's which is for money we already have into the system. A motion as made by S. Hall, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we sign the agreement with the proposed changes." All in favor.

George said it will be two years before it goes into effect. They have to accept the funding from RUS first. If accepted, they would start next year and it will take 1 1/2 -2 years to complete. S. Hall thinks the standard distance for a hydrant is 150 feet from the main line. George said when they are running the line they will be putting hydrants in which is part of the project.

E.) PA. GENERAL ENERGY COMPANY-PROPOSED WELL PAD

We received a letter dated 10/18/19 that this company is planning to drill a gas well within 1,000 feet of our property in Liberty Twp. They requested we review a map and well bores and complete an area of review landowner survey form. George did and returned the paperwork to them. We have heard nothing further.

F.) LIST OF INVESTMENTS

Leesa put this in the member's packets. M. Landis from C&N called and talked with J. Eckman about the one CD we have with them that will mature 11/26/19. One suggestion Matt had was if we added more funds to the base amount we could get a little better rate. J. Eckman checked with FCCB on interest rates on CD's, and there is not much difference in their interest rate versus what is with C&N. A longer term CD can generate a better rate. J. Eckman suggested that we leave the CD as it is, all in favor. J. Eckman said we could look into investing in money link CD's and would have to ask the auditor about doing that. We also need to discuss how to handle our royalty funds. S. Hall asked how our water infrastructure is and George said we have areas that need work. We do have pipe purchased for I&I work. We should look at purchasing more pipe to stockpile since it won't get any cheaper. We should use our funds toward capital improvements.

G.) PURCHASE SEWER CREDITS

We have to purchase nitrogen and phosphorous nutrient credits for 2018 for the sewer plant. S. Bray said Wellsboro and Mansfield Boroughs have credits that can be transferred.

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G.) SEWER CREDITS

The agreement of sale paperwork has to be submitted and DEP has to certify the credit transfers. From Wellsboro's Municipal Authority, we can purchase 1,312 nitrogen credits at \$3.50 per credit for a total of \$4,592.00. Payment has to be made within 30 days of receipt of buyers' notification by DEP. From Mansfield Borough, we can purchase 3,107 nitrogen credits at \$3.50 per credit for a total of \$10,874.50, and 182 phosphorous credits at \$4.47 per credit for a total of \$813.54. The total for both is \$16,280.04. A motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we purchase the sewer credits." All in favor. J. Eckman said last year we got credits from Shamokin, Altoona and Mansfield, so it is nice this year that we can buy all locally. Hopefully in a few years with our new plant we will be able to sell credits.

H.) The statement from C&N for our investments for 10/19 was given to the members.

I.) S. Hall asked if HRG was on schedule and P. Bauman asked if they are over budget. They need input from us for selection of the building construction type for main treatment/administration building and review and select emergency power back-up systems. They will contact George and a meeting will be set up with S. Bray.

There being no further business, the Vice Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:34 PM, motion by J. Eckman, seconded by P. Bauman with all in favor.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY