

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
OCTOBER 6, 2020

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

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

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

MINUTES

The minutes from the previous regular meeting held 9/1/20 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 \$19,148.87

Unpaid bills for water \$53,899.58

The following discussion was held on the bills: 1.) S. Hall asked about the water testing bills from Fairway, and George noted this included extra tests which have to be done for the BR Pilot Study. There are different parameters to be used for testing. 2.) M. Stoudt asked about the Mansfield Crane bill for water, and this was for setting the pall unit in place for the BR Pilot Study. 3.) J. Bubacz asked about the bill from Cox, Stokes & Lantz and this was for the Dorn property purchase. 4.) Leesa noted that a bill was received for sewer for the STP water bill in the amount of \$2,571.14. A bill for water was received from Grainger for a water pump in the amount of \$162.77. These came after the bill list was printed and need to be added. 5.) Leesa noted the repay of wages for water was higher due to work on the Taylor Run line and the BR Pilot Study. There being no further discussion on the bills, a motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That the bills be paid." All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

J. Eckman reported the balance in sewer of \$114,534.87 and in water \$38,967.15. Leesa noted we are short in the water account. George said we could hold off paying all we owe to the Boro this week. Leesa said the water bills will be going out so we will be receiving income later in the month. J. Eckman said we can transfer out of our reserve or postpone paying some bills until later in the month. We have water funds in the Royalty MMI and could take out of that account, like we have in the past. P. Bauman noted we need around \$15,000 if we are going to pay now. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we transfer out of our water Royalties MMI the amount needed to pay all our bills." All in favor. A motion was made by P. Bauman, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That the bills be paid." All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

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A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15

George said the flow tests on some hydrants around town for the ISO rating were done. He noted that on Gulick St., Dan had parked in front of a hydrant and when pulling out, broke the hydrant and bent the new truck bumper. We replaced the hydrant and it has a storz fitting. The old hydrant was part of a batch George got back in 1992, and they weren't as good as the ones we get now. There are still a lot of the old clow hydrants in the system. The man will send his report from the flow tests. We will contact the insurance company about the truck bumper and get it repaired.

Nothing to report on the salt well.

B.) DELINQUENTS

George passed out the report from Cheryl. We are making progress and just have to keep after them.

C.) INFILTRATION-LETTER TO DEP

S. Bray has our information and will be writing a letter to DEP regarding I&I repair work we have done and ask for 10-15 new tap ins. He does not know if we will get a reply this year. Most of the people we have dealt with in the past have retired and there are new younger ones.

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

UTRA is waiting for RUS to give a funding offer. Judy is the only one in the whole State that has to go over the paperwork. We are waiting for approval to bid out for our new STP.

E.) TAYLOR RUN-SOUTHWESTERN

F.) CASSELBERRY

George has texted him. He told Jim we have the new water line in for Taylor Run. We will start the 6" line going to the new well and need his input. We have permission to do it and approval from SRBC.

G.) OLD HOSPITAL

George thought S. Nickerson was going to meet with the owner sometime. If repair work is not done it should be condemned.

H.) PIPELINE BY TAYLOR RUN

The pipe is laid up to the sand bank. There is a cap on the line and a 2" blow off. They tested the chlorine reading and it is good so there is not a lot of contamination from the work. It will be tied in next year. They put a frost free hydrant along the edge of the road. They ran a hose up the bank to have the same elevation of the tank. The water will be shut off for winter.

I.) NEW STP

We are waiting to hear from RUS. George gave the members a fact sheet on the project.

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J.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

The Pilot Study is being done. Dan helped the company rep. hook it up and it is working well. We had to do different chemicals and testing. M. Stoudt said they have this at MU and we could compare our results with theirs.

K.) BR DAM

A new person at DEP says we have to have a permit number for the pond, but we have all the paperwork from when the reservoir was put in and it was all under one number. It is also part of the original design. S. Bray said we might have to ask for a meeting and present all the data we have to them.

L.) PAINT BR TANK-Reminder

M.) CYBERSECURITY

J. Bubacz had a meeting with them a few weeks ago. We will get information for the budget at the end of the year meeting for hardware and PC prices. The wires and switch are done. The antivirus and malware is in place.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) HRG REQUEST #18

This was received today in the amount of \$1,462.00, covering 8/3-8/30 and their Secretary said it was for funding coordination for rewriting the loan. The line of credit for Preconstruction bank Note Series 2018 was closed and included in the new loan Note Series 2020 in the amount of \$4.6 million which was accepted from FCCB. The requisition paperwork will be prepared, we sign, and they countersign and process it back to RUS. RUS will then send it to the bank for withdrawal from the new note. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Eckman, "That this bill be approved for payment. George will contact J. Bubacz and S. Hall for signatures when the paperwork is received." All in favor.

B.) REPSOL ROYALTY #32

The check was received. #33 statement and check was received and the members were given a copy of the statements.

C.) C&N STATEMENT FOR 8/20-In packets. 9/20 statement was passed out to the members.

D.) INTEREST C&N EZ CD'S 8/20-In packets. 9/20 statement was passed out to the members.

J. Eckman noted P. Bauman had questioned the EZ statement. J. Eckman talked with C&N and the EZ CD's interest is being reinvested back into them. With our other CD's the interest is being transferred into our regular account for use, so the balances are not higher.

E.) AGREEMENT MANSFIELD BORO

Solicitors still working on this.

F.) DORN PROPERTY

George contacted Gannon to add it on the insurance policy, and the bill for general liability is on the water bill list.

George had wondered about the land being used by the School for field trips for environmental study. That might get some kids interested in being water and sewer operators. The School would pay the liability like they do for other field trips. The members thought this was a good idea and George will talk with Bill Swingle about it.

G.) LETTER CROSS CREEK MINERALS-In packets.

This is a company looking to purchase all or part of our oil, gas and mineral interest of our property. This form letter was sent to other property owners in the area. M. Stoudt does not feel we should sell our interests. A lot of companies send these letters and people find they do not pay you what it is worth.

BOROUGH MANAGERS REPORT

1.) EXCAVATOR

George gave the members some pictures showing the new excavator digging down 60' of the Taylor Run sandbank high wall to get ready for construction of the new 1 MG storage tank next year. While using it, a sensor went off and we called CAT and this was under warranty so they replaced the part. The same sensor went off again so we called CAT and the repairman was going to talk to someone else.

2.) SEWER BILLS

George said he and Cheryl discussed the comments on Facebook regarding the bills. It was noted that we have sent notices regarding the rate increases due to having to put in the new stp. The members do not feel these comments should be on the Blossburg Together page, and the Administrators' are to be advised. Our office is where a person is to call or come to regarding their bills. If a person has a concern about any bill, from anywhere, they should contact the place it comes from to receive the correct information.

3.) LOADER

George said the agreement with the Boro for rental of the excavator has been signed. He reported that we need to look at a different loader and would like to work this into the budget. The used one we have was purchased through the State Bid 10-15 years ago, and payment was a 3-way split. A good new used could cost about \$60,000 or to purchase a new one could cost about \$120,000. George has Stuart Lisowski do the repairs on the old and maybe will last another year or two. M. Stoudt suggested that George get prices for both used and new for next month.

OTHER

J. Eckman asked how the underground water table is, since there is a drought warning. George said the R&G well is good and water is lower but still flowing over the reservoir at Bellman.

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J. Eckman wondered if the old hospital is required to carry liability insurance on it even though vacant. On the old Morris Run Store he carried insurance in case something happened. It is not known if the owner has insurance or not, or if it is a legal requirement.

P. Bauman said there was an article in the PMAA magazine regarding getting Broad Band service in our State. There could be funding available and an Authority being able to administer the money. J. Bubacz said there is certainly a need, but the costs are outrageous and not something we would want to get involved with. Tri County just did work on their territory and it cost millions. This would be such a huge undertaking for anyone and would cost millions just in our area. Fiber optic lines were passed through town this summer for Blue Ridge cable work. There are a lot of dead spots and surrounding areas with no service of any kind. With the Covid-19 pandemic there is much need for on line and phone services.

There being no further business, Chairman Stoudt adjourned the meeting at 7:37 PM on motion by S. Hall, seconded by J. Eckman, with all in favor.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY