

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
FEBRUARY 2, 2021

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

The following members were present: Chairman M. Stoudt, Vice Chairman J. Bubacz, Jr., and Treasurer J. Eckman. Absent: Member P. Bauman-who had called George to say he was working in Galeton and would not be back in time, and Secretary S. Hall. Also present was G. Lloyd, Borough Manager and L. Lazouras, Recording Secretary.

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

#### MINUTES

The minutes from the regular meeting held 1/5/21 were brought up for discussion. 1.) J. Eckman noted that on Page 4, under Other: A.) George said Taylor was up-should be "the Tioga River". 2.) J. Bubacz noted on Page 4, under Other: "The Chairman said by our 2/21 meeting-should be 2/2." 3.) M. Stoudt noted on the first Page, mute their mikes-should be "mics". There being no further corrections, a motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That the minutes be approved as read with corrections." All in favor.

#### BILLS BE PAID

Unpaid bills for sewer \$37,627.94

Unpaid bills for water \$40,904.52

\*Sewer-Interest new STP loan-new loan documents interest only pay on 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary date o 8/13/21 at 2.37%.

The following discussion was held on the bills. 1) M. Stoudt asked if Dan is still satisfied with Fairway Labs, and he is and has no issues with them. 2.) Leesa advised the members that the insurance bills are up due to the fact that the liability coverage was increased. Before the coverage was for one million dollars but with the addition of the Dorn property and new pieces of equipment it was raised to two million dollars. In the water we also have coverage on the BR Pilot Study equipment. When the Study is completed in the spring and the equipment moved out, we will remove that from the policy. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by J. Eckman, "That the bills be paid." All in favor.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer J. Eckman reported the balance in sewer of \$146,071.36 and in water \$36,838.35. Leesa noted that water income is coming in now and sewer bills go out again in March. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by M. Stoudt, "That the Treasurer's Report be accepted subject to audit." All in favor.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

##### A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15

George said they are looking for leaks. They found one possibly on Taylor St. at A. Williams. They can hear water on the curb box and when listening the sound is loud when the flow is restricted. There is a tee behind the garage so they will listen when there is less snow.

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The flows are up 20,000 gpd so there is a leak somewhere. The flows from Morris Run were up 10,000 gallons and they found a leak in front of George Manikowski's on Blake again, which Scott and Chad fixed. George talked with the Township about replacing that 2" main line. We have been using handy bands to make the continuous repairs to this line that keeps leaking. Their Water Board doesn't have any money to replace the whole line. The line is about ¼ mile from Patty Makley's to Cubby Hodder's with the worst section in front of Manikowski.

George said there is nothing on the salt well.

B.) DELINQUENTS

Cheryl prepared a list and sewer and water are down so we are going in the right direction with our collections. There was a decline in the over 60 day accounts. Notices were sent out.

C.) INFILTRATION-LETTER TO DEP

We mailed a letter on 12/30 from the 33" of snow and 2.75" of rain in December. We can now email our letters to them.

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

UTRA has been working with RUS and waiting for a funding offer.

E.) TAYLOR RUN-SOUTHWESTERN

F.) CASSELBERRY

Jim sent an email that the Sportsman's Well paperwork was submitted to SRBC. He will next work on the new Taylor Run wells.

G.) OLD HOSPITAL

S. Nickerson said the people are still interested and trying to get funding from the government.

H.) PIPELINE BY TAYLOR RUN

The line is done to the sand bank. S. Bray is working on the next section to end where the new tank will be. The Surveyor had to get more information to Scott so he can get the design done and the paperwork submitted to DEP to get approvals. We will be able to use our excavator to do the well pad. We hope to build the tank in the spring or later in the summer. We will be able to work through Costars so it doesn't have to be bid out. S. Bray has talked with Dutchland about the tank.

I.) NEW STP

HRG has completed the design and bid documents are ready for advertising. We are waiting for permission from RUS to go out to bid. RUS reviewed the estimated costs and they exceed the funding initially allocated. Increase costs are the result of design changes necessitated by I&I issues that became apparent during the recent extended wet period. The changes include a larger plant, dual force main under the River and modifications to the pump station and new outfall. All are necessary to accommodate the higher anticipated flows.

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To reduce costs, HRG included alternate bid items in the bid package. We have also offered to do some of the work, which will cut costs. In a phone conference we had along with RUS on 1/20/21, they said the increased cost and changes in scope will require another Environmental Assessment be completed. Tom Wellington, RUS, is back in the conversation and committed to help move it along after completing the EA first. HRG is addressing their portion and we are working on I&I costs. Collection system rehab will be considered as one alternative to a larger STP. A letter was sent to Anne Hughes, DEP, informing her of where we are on the new plant in relation to the COA and timeline. The delays, beyond our control to be able to start the project as planned, makes it look like we won't be able to advertise bids until late spring or early summer since it can take between 45-60 days for the environmental assessment to be prepared and approved. It will mean additional funding needed whether through them, another agency, or if we would have to do a bank loan.

When you plan for a bigger plant you also consider future expansion areas in our town or if nearby communities would want to come on someday, such as Arnot or down Canada Road in Covington. Arnot is a big place and has area to expand if they ever want to. Mike thanked George for all his time working on this project.

J.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

This will be done after the Pilot Study is completed. We are 88 days into the Study.

K.) BR DAM

George said DEP thinks we have to do another permit. S. Bray has sent all our information to them that it was included in our existing one. It was asked what the estimated cost would be and if we don't do it, what we would have to do. George said we would have to clean out the reservoir more often because the settling pond saves a lot. J. Eckman thinks the County had some project or funds for reducing sediment in streams. He thinks it is for five years to maintain and deals with the Fish Commission and DEP. George can call Eric.

L.) PAINT BR TANK

M.) CYBERSECURITY

J. Bubacz has nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) HRG REQUEST #3-RECEIVED NOT PAID. #4-NOT RECEIVED YET.

George did get #4 and the amount is \$85,739.60. #3 is \$705.00 so the total for both is \$86,444.60. M. Stoudt asked if S. Bray had reviewed the bills, and he has. We are now doing things by email instead of regular mail. A motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That the bills be approved for payment. J. Bubacz and S. Hall will sign the paperwork." All in favor.

B.) REPSOL ROYALTY #37-NOT YET. #36-STATEMENT IN PACKETS.

The amount has gone up a little bit.

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C.) C&N STATEMENT FOR 12/20-IN PACKETS.

D.) INTEREST C&N EZ CD'S 12/20-IN PACKETS.

E.) AGREEMENT MANSFIELD BORO

Attorneys are working on it. It is being modified so it would work with any Boro and you don't have to do an individual every time.

F.) C&N WATER CD#2 + CD#6-Both in MMI until reinvested. J. Eckman has talked with FCCB and C&N and both said there is not a lot out there right now to invest, and it is earning interest in the MMI.

G.) SALE OLD VAN

It is ready to go to auction and with all the snow, we will wait until spring.

H.) PROPOSED 2021 BUDGETS FOR SEWER AND WATER

George and Leesa worked on them and they were in the packets. J. Bubacz asked about the revenue from Royalties, and George did an average, so it could be a little conservative but it does drop in the winter. The Boro had a lease for the Island they signed and it was a lower rate than the first one. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by J. Eckman, "That the budgets be approved as presented." All in favor.

I.) BILL FOR WATER PENN VEST LOAN CLOSED-ON BILL LIST

A notice was received that our Penn Vest Water Loan #ME30066 was paid. We have to file a Termination Statement with the Secretary of the Commonwealth to terminate the lien held by Penn Vest. A check in the amount of \$84.00 has to be sent with the statement.

OTHER

A.) J. Eckman asked if there have been any frozen lines and George said none yet, but he thinks there is enough ground cover from all the snow. We also should not have to worry about the underground water table in the spring.

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

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CHAIRMAN

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SECRETARY

