

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

The following members were present: Chairman M. Stoudt, Vice Chairman J. Bubacz, Jr., Treasurer J. Eckman, Secretary S. Hall and member P Bauman. 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 previous meeting held 3/2/21 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 BE PAID

Unpaid bills for sewer \$22,830.15

Unpaid bills for water \$46,906.43

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

The following discussion was held on the bills: 1) The Chairman asked if we are still satisfied with Fairway for testing. George said yes and the girl gives details to follow when doing the tests. The information is sent in to DEP and we have heard nothing from them to doubt the results. 2.) The bill was received from the Pall Corporation for the Pilot Study at Bellman in the amount of \$20,000.00, which is on the bill list. We were supposed to be done in November but the cold weather and snow came. We have talked with them and they approved us keeping the equipment for another two weeks to do more testing. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by S. Hall, "That the bills be paid." All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

J. Eckman reported the balance in sewer of \$167,638.69 and in water \$34,713.71. It was noted the water balance is short until we start getting water bills income later this month. J. Eckman made the motion, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we take \$20,000.00 out of the Water Royalties MMI to pay the Pall bill, and we use from the regular Water Co. MMI to pay the rest." All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15

They are always looking for leaks. Nothing to report on the salt well. George said they fixed a big leak in Morris Run and their draw is down to 25,000 gallons which is really good. This was by the former Homer Strong nursing home and a 1" thin wall plastic pipe. This was a main line behind the former One Stop Amusement.

REGULAR MEETING BMA 4/6/21
PAGE 2

B.) DELINQUENTS

Cheryl did the report and we are making progress. There is a three apartment home that is way behind, and the owner is supposed to be paying the bills. We are going to give the residents the Tennant Bill of Rights which states a tenant can pay their utility bills directly to us and deduct it from their rent. The owner of this building had lived in Covington, but moved to Harrisburg.

C.) INFILTRATION-LETTER TO DEP

With the last snow and rain event we had, we were sure it was going to overflow at the pump house, but luckily it didn't and we did not have to send a letter.

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

UTRA is still waiting for a funding offer from RUS.

E.) TAYLOR RUN-SOUTHWESTERN

F.) CASSELBERRY

Jim had written a history of the Taylor Run Reservoir for documents to be sent to SRBC. George and Leesa went back through our files and found a lot of information Jim needed. M. Stoudt saw where Repsol is applying to drill another well on the Dorn property (not the land we purchased but land Dorn's still have.) Dorn has room for five more wells on all their property. George sent the information to Jim and he will see about setting up a meeting with Repsol. The new location will be drilled down in the direction of south and east which is in the other direction from our watershed. They are talking of drawing six million gallons a day. We have water available from our salt well they might be interested in buying from us, for the drilling, so we will tell them since it would be close to them. The last time any water was used from the salt well was for dust control when putting in new Route 15.

G.) OLD HOSPITAL-Nothing done regarding the broken windows and doors and it is getting really bad.

H.) PIPELINE BY TAYLOR RUN

We put the line in and a T will have to be installed to feed the water tank. We will go through Costars for the tank project. Concrete work will be done. The tank will be precast which they will truck in and put together. S. Bray has the application ready to send in for the permit and you cannot do anything until you hear back from DEP and they issue the permit. We have to sign the papers and send a check for \$1,000.00, which was on the bill list. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Eckman, "That we sign the application and issue the check." All in favor. Scott will email the application and a copy of the check, and then George will deliver the originals to their office in Williamsport. We are moving forward to put this in before next winter. It was suggested we keep this meeting open should something further be needed for the tank.

I.) NEW STP

A notice had been received from DEP that we did not meet our deadline to start the plant. A Skype meeting was held with them. They are aware of the hold up with RUS and the new

environmental assessment requirements and funding, but are not concerned with that, just the COA. The original COA was for two years. We will have to pay a fine to them, in the amount of \$7600.00. There is some flexibility and they said we can ask for a new time line. We should extend it as far out as we can should more holdups arise. HRG proposed to start by 6/22 and be done in 8/23, but we were thinking start by 7/22 and completed by 7/24. We are hoping for the bids to be completed by 1/22 and released, accepted by 3/22, reviewed and awarded by 5/22, and ready to go by 6/22. J. Eckman noted there is a shortage of materials right now and shipping problems around the world, due to Covid-19. A motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by S. Hall, "That we ask for as much time as we can get and to pay the fine." All in favor. George will take this check to DEP in Williamsport when he takes the other check.

J.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

George said they have been doing work to get the Pall unit going following the winter weather. They had to thaw pipes in the ground and the equipment. The water would not pull through and they had to flush it out. They got it going again and will do more testing for another two weeks. M. Stoudt said with the wastewater from the treatment process would have to be trucked out every few weeks, with the membrane system. George hopes to get a line in but that will not be cheap. Mike also said new systems are using the membrane instead of the older traveling bridge system. Plant operators are now trained on the membrane system. We will have to consider that after Dan Grinnell retires. The last sewer is by Punk Reppard's garage. The line would have to go along S. Wmsn. Rd., underneath Bellman Run or Johnson Creek, then to the water plant. If a bigger sewer line was run, in the future you could pick up Arnot if they wanted sewer, or were forced to get sewer by DEP. It was noted that Morris Run was forced to get sewer service due to so many malfunctioning septic tanks. The first section was in Cummings Mills to the river, and the next up to Morris Run. They received Penn Vest funding for their project.

K.) BR DAM

It looks like we will have to get a new permit since they said it was not on our original permit, even though we presented information to them. If we do not have the dam, we will have to clean the reservoir more often.

L.) PAINT BR TANK

M.) CYBERSECURITY

Joe said we will do the email change and training this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) HRG REQUEST #3+#4-Not paid yet. Not received #5 yet.

RUS has not approved the additional environmental assessment data yet. It was asked if HRG has asked for any payment, and they have not, but George will touch base with Erin.

B.) REPSOL ROYALTY #40-Not yet. #39-Got check and statement-in packets.

REGULAR MEETING BMA 4/6/21
PAGE 4

C.) C&N STATEMENT FOR 2/21-In packets.

D.) INTEREST C&N EZ CD'S 2/21-In packets.

J. Eckman has talked with Matt Landis, and interest rates have gone up a little. The only way to get a better interest is to go for a longer-term index CD, like a 5 or 7 year term. We do have investments in FCCB also, so some of the accounts are for a longer term as a reserve. He recommends at this time we just leave the funds where they are until the rates go back up.

E.) AGREEMENT MANSFIELD BORO

F.) C&N WATER CD#2 + CD#6-Still in the money market account until reinvested.

G.) SALE DAN'S OLD VAN

George contacted contact Al Stage in New York State and he will pick it up Tuesday, and bring his rollback.

H.) LETTER D. BOGACZK

We have heard nothing further from him regarding his letter. He did come in the other day to pay his sewer bills but said nothing more. Leesa suggested this be taken off the old business, all in agreement.

I.) PVC MARKET-In packets

George received an email from Ron Weed, L/B Water regarding PVC and HDPE markets are running out of resins used to make pipe and fittings. Resin plants in Texas are shut down and ethylene plants are the reason for the slow start up. There is also a worldwide Tin shortage, which is used in pipe and fittings. There is also a gasket shortage and ocean/shipping container issues. George is concerned as we will need materials for the new stp. He would like to get a list of materials needed from HRG in case we can get some of the materials ordered now.

BOROUGH MANAGERS REPORT

Kerry Geykis started walking the land by Taylor Run and the Dorn property we purchased checking timber. He will submit a report when he finishes. We previously had him do a timber management plan.

OTHER

A.) S. Hall asked if we could possibly put an update on the Boro page for our customers, regarding the new time line once approved, for the sewer plant. He received a complaint from a woman in Morris Run regarding her sewer bills.

B.) Last month J. Eckman had suggested making a memorial donation for Nancy, Scott Bray's wife, but we had no information. Leesa said they requested donations to the Stony Fork Baptist Church Missionary Fund. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Eckman, "That we send \$100.00 to the Church." All in favor.

REGULAR MEETING BMA 4/6/21
PAGE 5

C.) J. Eckman brought a roll of toilet paper made from bamboo which was for sale in a store in Mansfield. He was curious about the affect this could have on the sewer plant. When put in water it did not break down into pieces like regular paper. George does not know if Dan has heard anything about this, but will ask. He does know that flushable baby wipes can plug up and cause problems at the plant.

At this time, there being no further business, the Chairman did not adjourn the meeting but left it open. Everyone left at 7:45 PM.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY