

RECONVENED MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
JUNE 17, 2021

The reconvened meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Thursday, June 17, 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 and member P. Bauman. Absent was S. Hall, Secretary. Also present was G. Lloyd, Borough Manager, Recording Secretary L. Lazouras and Guest S. Bray, Engineer.

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

BILLS BE PAID:

SEWER-\$500.00 renew NPDES permit for old stp. WATER-Fairway Labs. - testing \$850.00-most were for the pall unit, Mansfield Crane-\$1,340.00-to remove the pall unit, and Mansfield Penny Saver-\$80.40-ad to flush hydrants. These bills total \$2,270.40. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by P. Bauman, "That the bills be paid." All in favor. Since Scott is here, he can take the check and signed paper for the permit to send all together to DEP.

QUESTS

1.) NEW TANK

S. Bray was present, and we had a conference call with Mike Schmidt and Zack from Dutchland and Michael O'Brien to discuss their contract proposal for the new tank. One item discussed was we are tax exempt so they will need a copy of our exemption certificate, and that will change the cost. They sent a map of the proposed lay out and a cement pad for the crane. It was discussed what is needed for the pad, movement of the boom on the crane, the sequence of work, pouring of the concrete, and weather concerns. They are looking at about 12 weeks to move in and be finished. The footers will take 2 weeks, the base a week or two, 2 for the cement to cure, the last week for piping and disinfection. George said it would mean starting in July and being done in October. It takes about 8 weeks to manufacture the panels. George said if they didn't get started until the first week of September, going out 12 weeks could hinge on what the weather would be by then. We cannot start until we get permission from DEP, and we have received no preliminary comments yet, so that is a time concern. J. Eckman asked where they would get the concrete and it is less than an hour away. He noted there is a concrete plant that could be used in Covington.

In the contract you can upgrade the structural warranty to 5 years, or 10 adding on a percent of the contract value. The performance and payment

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bond are added in the cost. It was suggested that George have C. Lantz look at this now.

S. Bray can email a man he works with at DEP to get a status update on our request and a time frame, since we do not know when they will be back working in the office.

We asked if the slab could be poured and left over the winter and the tank be set in the spring. We also wondered about the coating and sealer for the tank.

George asked how long this price is good for, since we are awaiting word back from DEP. Mike said at least 30 days but does not know if it had to be on hold for 90 days so will check. It was suggested every 30 days we discuss the timing situation. Steel prices are the most volatile right now.

Everyone was thanked for the call and S. Bray will stay in contact with them. S. Bray left the meeting at 7:30 PM.

2.) PALL UNIT

M. Stoudt asked when the pall results will be back, and S. Bray will let us know when compiled.

3.) INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH UTRRA

RUS wanted two sentences added to the original. Page 2, SECTION TWO, (a) During any disruption of services, water available will be proportionately supplied to UTRRA customers. Page 3, SECTION SIX, 2nd paragraph, "It is understood that any upgrades, changes or other repairs to the UTRRA system which are paid for by UTRRA will become the property of UTRRA." J. Eckman asked if this contract commits them to getting water from us. George said they have no other place to go as Mansfield doesn't have enough. We are to supply up to 70,050 gpd. It was asked if C. Lantz looked at this, and he was contacted. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by J. Eckman, "That we accept the additions to the agreement." All in favor.

4.) LETTER FROM APPALACHIAN CLEAN ENERGY FROM ELKLAND

This company is interested in purchasing oil and gas rights in our area. All in agreement that we are not interested in selling our rights to anyone. J. Eckman said we have received over \$2 million in the past 41 months from royalties. We have money in our coffers, which we never had, and have been able to purchase new equipment and land to protect our water sources.

5.) M. Stoudt reported he met with Kerry Geykis last week and this week to do a timber cruise of our properties. In 2000, we needed money for a project, so we timbered a unit and that area will take a long time to recover. If we keep areas in reserve and have it marked already if we need funds for something we will have it ready to bid out. We can also timber and use the money for in the future to help regenerate poor conditions in the woods today. There is an old road which was used the first time we timbered, and Kerry thinks we should use horses instead of vehicles for logging. Kerry said we have areas that could be logged now. J. Eckman asked if there was any larch because he heard Signor ran out of larch, but we don't have any. There is larger cherry and there needs to be a canopy left open to allow more sun light in. There should be spraying done to leaf tops to protect the seedlings. There is a company that advertises using horses. Water is our first business, and we need to protect our watersheds. Mike said we might have to tighten up some areas where 4-wheelers are running on trails which can cause an erosion factor. Kerry is glad that we are looking out for the best interest of the land, as he does not want to see the habitat destroyed. Once we have all the information gathered, we can decide on bidding out for timber work. J. Eckman said now is a good time for timbering. Due to the pandemic, the cost of wood has skyrocketed.

6.) George reported that Dan received the AWOP award again this year for safe water and has participated in this reporting program for the least 12-14 years. S. Fessler and C. Roupp will be attending the conference in August and will accept the award.

7.) J. Eckman reported that he met with Heather at FCCB and opened a 36-month CD#35, from the BMA Sewer Revenue Fund MMI which is earmarked for the new WWTP. This is a regular CD, earning .50% interest that will compound quarterly back to the principal balance. The maturity date is 6/15/24.

M. Stoudt noted that at the present time we are receiving royalties from the gas lease, but there is the potential for oil leases also. Future fuel leases and timber can be huge dividends. It is important that our previous members had the foresight to protect our watershed. There will be timbering to do on the Dorn property we purchased in the future.

J. Eckman said we had Sam Cooke, State Forester go over the Taylor Run lands in 2004. We have a detailed report done by Deer Park which was done

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in 2002 which Sam used. It was divided into sections. Leesa has this report on file.

M. Stoudt said he is sure there will be more activity on the wells past his house. They would not have put in a million-dollar paved road to the well sites unless something else more will be happening in the future.

There being no further business, it was agreed that this meeting be left open in case we get a reply from DEP on the tank. Everyone left at 7:55 PM.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY