

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
FEBRUARY 1, 2022

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 7:00 PM. in the Council Room.

The following members were present: Chairman M. Stoudt, Vice Chairman J. Bubacz, Jr., Treasurer P. Bauman, and member J. Eckman. Secretary S. Hall was absent as he had to ref a basketball game. Also present was G. Lloyd, Borough Manager and L. Lazouras, Recording Secretary.

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

SECTION 1. All reports to be accepted in one motion

- A.) Minutes of previous meeting
- B.) Treasurer's report and bill payment

The minutes from the regular meeting held 1/4/22 were brought up for discussion. J. Eckman had the following question on Page 6, Letter C- customer pay online. He wondered about those people that do not have credit cards, bank cards or computers. Leesa advised him you can still come to the office and pay either by cash, check or money order, mail your payment or use the mail slot by the front door. There were no corrections.

P. Bauman read the Treasurer's Report. The members looked over the bill list. There being no discussion, a motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That the reports be accepted." All in favor.

SECTION 2. Old Business:

- A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15

Nothing on the well. J. Eckman asked what the problem was on Parkhurst St. by Nickerson's toward the intersection of Hannibal and Parkhurst Streets as he saw the boys working there. George said there was a leak along the side of the road like a river flowing. We think we had water loss for 2-3 days. He and Dan went out in the middle of Monday night looking for leaks. The fire hydrant by his mom's house was checked and we will have to work on it later. The hole in the line was the size of a 50-cent piece. This is an area where the Gas Co. had done work and they wondered about cathodic corrosion. The line was an 8" and had been installed back in 1978. They used a handiband to fix the line. The water was shut off from Signor's on Seymour St. up the hill around to Hemenway's to do the repair. We knew there was a problem because the holding tank was down thirty feet and they had to raise Bellman and run the well. The residents were put on a boil water order until the line was flushed out and we get the chlorine residual.

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REPSOL

George reported that Repsol has two new well pads going in and will be buying water from our B&D hydrant. They will get two loads per day and will draw for about 4-5 months. It was asked if a hydrant can freeze, and it can. J. Eckman saw in Arnot that Todd Berguson had a ground heater. Mike said they are self-contained portable hydronic with a heat tube and blanket that sends the heat down. You can rent them from Sun Belt and the gas industry uses them all the time. George will talk to Todd about his.

B.) DELINQUENTS

George gave the members the report from Cheryl, and we are making progress. Mike said to convey our thanks to her.

C.) INFILTRATION

They haven't been doing much due to the snow and plowing. George will contact Wellsboro about their pipe cleaner next month. Mike was at a UCC Code meeting, and they adopted the PA. 2018 Series B. Codes. If you line pipes inside you can only do the size of 4" to 18" and nothing larger.

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

UTRA is getting easements signed. Some people are not going to sign, and they could file for Eminent Domain to speed the process up. They are looking into running the line along the road instead, and boring instead of doing an open cut. Mike said by the Penelec place there is a steep bank with a sharp drop. Past the sewer plant, the internet cable was installed to Covington along the road also. The line will be run on the east side down N. Wmsn. Rd. and the back streets in Putnam and Covington. It will be gravity fed until it gets to Covington. It will go down Canada Road but not up the Copp Hollow Road. There is enough pressure from Bloss to reduce from 120 down to 40. Canada Road and west and east is 87 PSI and at Lowe's 90-100. The line will be 5-6 feet deep. There will be a T at Canada Rd. and another up to Welch. J. Eckman said there is potential for development up Copp Hollow so they should consider putting a T there also.

E.) TAYLOR RUN-SOUTHWESTERN

F.) CASSELBERRY

George got a text from Jim today that he is working on the papers to submit to SRBC. He has to get a large-scale map printed.

G.) OLD HOSPITAL

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They will need to set up a ZHB meeting to get the land rezoned. On the 14th is the Planning Commission meeting and Dave Adams will have the plans. There will also have to be a public meeting. The business relates to Joseph's Place. P. Bauman asked about the potential demand for the stp and water supply. The talk is they will employ seventy. It was asked how many patient beds there will be, but that is not known yet. George said the original stp and water system took care of the old hospital when operating.

H.) TAYLOR RUN TANK

In the original bid was the Performance and Payment Bond Adder in the amount of \$17,500.00, which will revise the contract total. George talked with S. Bray as we requested a detailed description, and there is a change in the wording. A motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we approve the Contract Add #1-Payment & Performance Bonds." All in favor. Chairman Stoudt will sign and return to them. We have not talked with Dutchland so Mike and George will call. Hopefully, there will not be a struggle to get supplies like the steel and rebar as there is an ongoing global pandemic and changing supply chain conditions because of Covid. We will ask if they could be gotten now and placed on site.

I.) NEW STP

RUS said we are close to being able to bid in March. Alyssa sent an update of progress that has been made and what steps are left to complete. Due to the hold up, George reported that our Interim loan funding with FCCB will have to be extended. We borrowed \$4,628,000.00 in 8/20, at 2.37% interest with a due date of 8/13/22. We pay interest on the outstanding principal balance amount drawn once a year on the anniversary date, of which the bank sends us a bill. An email was sent to Johnathan Cox at Eckert Seaman's, and he said it is time to start working on an extension. It was noted there must be other places in the same boat as us with all the delays. It was asked if the bids are over budget, will RUS have more funding available if needed, but we don't know. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we extend the term of the loan with FCCB and see if it can be for 24 months. If we start to build this year it could take until 2024 so a longer term would give us some leeway." All in favor. George had talked about hiring our own inspector, Ron Weed, which would cost less. He would report to us, and George and Mike would oversee him. J. Bubacz said there would be no benefits paid and just a flat rate per hour and George said yes. George figures on 20 hours a week. A motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we pay \$40.00 per hour to Ron Weed as our inspector." All in favor.

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J.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

George had called the man that did the pall study and left a message, but he has not called back so will call again.

K.) BR DAM

L.) PAINT BR DAM

M.) CYBERSECURITY

J. Bubacz reported they had a meeting with CSR. There is an update for Windows 11 and that will depend upon the software. Training will be done. It was noted there should be manual overrides for any systems using a computer should any problems arise.

SECTION 3. NEW BUSINESS:

A.) HRG REQUEST #7

Request #7 was received in the amount of \$1,027.00 from 11/29-12/31/21 for Professional Services. S. Bray has reviewed this. 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 papers and will be returned via email. George said #6 had been returned to RUS but they have not replied so we can pay it.

B.) REPSOL ROYALTY-#49-Not received yet

C.) C&N CD INTEREST STATEMENTS, EASY ACCESS CD's, FCCB-Statements for 1/22 were passed out.

P. Bauman reported that rates have gone up a little and if you go out five years you can get 1%.

D.) LETTER DAVE BOGACZYK

George had taken all his accounts and done a history of all bills sent and all amounts received. He had done up to 12/15/20 and more bills have incurred after that date, but this was a start. The members had been given a copy. George and Mike met with Dave and went over the data to that date. George will continue from that date forward with the current bills, and they will meet again in a few weeks. George said he would write one check for all three utilities which can cause confusion. He had called J. Eckman to discuss the matter and Jack said it has to be taken to the entire Board but hopes it can be resolved. Leesa asked if he had provided any of his own records, but he did not. Mike thanked George for all the time he spent on this.

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E.) TIMBER TAYLOR RUN

George had talked with K. Geykis regarding our tax status. Leesa had sent a tax exemption certificate to Cummings and gave Kerry a copy.

SECTION 4. BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

SECTION 5. OTHER

A.) J. Eckman asked if there was anything in our by-laws about how long a guest can speak. Leesa thought the Boro follows a five-minute policy. If we don't have anything we should. The Chairman is in control of the meeting. Leesa was asked to look in the Municipal Authorities Act book.

B.) George reported that UGI put into PUC for a natural gas rate increase of 9.5% residential, 7.5% for commercial and 6.7% for industrial. He said this is large and will have a significant impact on all customers.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM on motion by J. Bubacz, second by P. Bauman, with all in favor.

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CHAIRMAN

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SECRETARY