

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
JUNE 7, 2022

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

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

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

The regular meeting held 5/3/22 had not been closed. We reconvened on 5/17/22 and did not close the regular meeting. A motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by P. Bauman, "That the regular 5/3/22 meeting be closed." All in favor.

The Chairman thanked S. Hall for accepting the position of Chairman Pro Tem and chairing the 5/17/22 reconvened meeting.

SECTION 1. All reports to be accepted in one motion

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

The minutes from the regular meeting held 5/3/22 and the reconvened meeting held 5/17/22 were brought up for discussion. 1.) Treasurer P. Bauman advised Mike and Joe that we had discussed at the reconvened meeting the sewer loan from the water that we repay monthly. He suggested this be paid off since we have the money and will only have the new WWTP loan to pay. 2.) J. Eckman questions having to pay annually for a safety deposit box with FCCB as he knows of other banks that provide small rewards for customers that do a lot of business with them. No further discussion on the minutes.

P. Bauman read the Treasurer's report. The members looked over the bill list. P. Bauman asked Leesa if the sewer list includes paying off the loan to water, and it does. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by S. Hall, "That the reports be accepted, and the bills be paid." All in favor.

SECTION 2. Old Business

A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15

Nothing on the well. We are looking for leaks. We had PA Rural Water in, and he pinpointed the leak on S. Wmsn. Rd. which was repaired by the owner who hired Stuart Lisowski. He put in $\frac{3}{4}$ " copper. They had to go 5' under the road and obtained a permit from PennDOT. J. Eckman asked if there were still lead lines around town, and there are.

B.) DELINQUENTS

The members were given the list and the numbers are decreasing. M. Stoudt said this is great work.

C.) INFILTRATION

George said Wellsboro is still working on their project and they had hired the Insight Company to do their work. George will contact Wellsboro to come to clean out the line on N. Wmsn. Rd. later this month.

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

They have 8 easements that have not been signed and will have their attorney send out letters and hope to not have to file eminent domain. If you do not hook up, you still have to pay the monthly bill. When we did our system, we had a few customers that would not hook on, went to court, and they still had to pay the quarterly bill.

E.) TAYLOR RUN-SOUTHWESTERN

F.) CASSELBERRY

George had tried to call but got no answer. He left a message about the application to SRBC. He also told him that the tank pad is done and Dutchland is coming in next Monday to set the tank. George will call him again in a few weeks.

G.) OLD HOSPITAL

George said the engineer and architect called about the type of fire hydrant needed up there. They own the water and sewer lines around the building. M. Stoudt again said he has not received any application or drawings which he has to get before any work can be started.

H.) TAYLOR RUN TANK/CHLORINE BUILDING

They poured the concrete and are going to set the tank. The chlorine building will have to be put in. George called around to get cost estimates for a stick built versus a prefabricated one. S. Bray went over the bid documents. The bid from VA. was \$54,250.00 without the cost of getting a crane and transportation fees. Those two items could bring the total to \$70,000.00 when done. George said he called Seals about getting block, he got a cost from Stoudt for electrical work, and miscellaneous items for an estimated total of \$31,200.00 which would be half the price. It was also noted VFP could not guarantee a delivery date of 10/31/22. J. Eckman asked about insulation, and George said that could be an additional \$10,000, bringing the total up to \$45,000. We could build

TAYLOR RUN CHLORINE BUILDING BID

in the fall, and we would have to order the materials this week. A motion was made by P. Bauman, seconded by J. Eckman, "That we reject the bid from VPF, Inc. for the pre-fab chlorine building and bid out with a local contractor to build." All in favor. S. Bray will take care of notifying VPF. Leesa said we also have the bid bond. George has been taking pictures daily of the project.

I.) NEW STP

The members had been given a copy of the bid results in their packets. Five companies bid on the total base price. A bid from Lobar, Inc. was withdrawn due to a clerical math error. (had been the low bid.) The low bid is Performance Construction Co. Three companies bid for electrical construction with the low bid being Tra Electric, Inc. Two companies bid on the HVAC Construction with the low bid being AFT Mechanical. The total of the 3 low bidders was \$18,223,760.00. If we deduct proposed alternatives of \$588,771.00, the balance is \$17,634,989.00. Proposed alternatives deal with fencing and gates, paving, painting, demolition of existing plant, electrical work, plumbing work. S. Bray, Yves from HRG and George had a conference call this morning to go over the results. The total is two times more than that for which we have funding. It was asked if we can request more funding from RUS. George would like to keep this meeting open for when we have further information. He could also ask HRG and S. Bray to attend a meeting to discuss the matter. J. Eckman asked how long the bids are good for and George will ask. S. Hall said the bottom line is the money we need. There will be paperwork to sign with USDA which is one of the steps to be done. One paper is an intent, but nothing more. We will have to obtain additional funding either from RUS or somewhere. J. Eckman is overly concerned about the amount of money and what our budget would be and the affect to our community. We also have to take into consideration future operating costs. M. Stoudt said we have to be able to pay for it. We are under the Consent Order with DEP and can face fines, but they do know we are doing the best that we can. We have heard nothing from them since 4/15/22. J. Eckman abstains until we figure out how we are going to pay for it, and a recession is being predicted. S. Hall said at this time we allow the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman to issue the Notice of Intent to Award contingent on receiving direction from USDA. A motion was made by P. Bauman, seconded by S. Hall, "That we authorize this." J. Eckman abstained and the rest agreed. A motion was made by P. Bauman, seconded by S. Hall, "That the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman sign required forms/documents as might be required by USDA." J. Eckman abstained and the rest agreed. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by P. Bauman, "That the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman proceed with obtaining funding direction from USDA." J. Eckman abstained, and the rest agreed.

M. Stoudt noted that under the DEP Consent order we cannot allow any new connections and we have to continue I&I work. George said more required information has been submitted following requests from HRG. At this time, no decision will be made on the bids until we have the final funding figures and decide how to proceed. All in agreement.

NEW STP-OPEN #2 NEW ACCOUNT

Treasurer P. Bauman said last year we opened a CD earmarked for the new WWTP, with FCCB from funds in the BMA Revenue Fund Money Market account from the sewer bills rate increase. He said we have funds built up again in that account, and suggests we open another account #2 to ear mark for the new WWTP. J. Bubacz asked when the sewer bills go out again, and it is this month. Pat had talked with M. Landis at C&N Bank and interest rates have risen on brokerage CD's. The rate is higher on a brokerage than a regular CD. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Eckman," That we open a new separate account #2 earmarked for the new WWTP. The amount of \$250,000.00 is to be taken out of the BMA Revenue Fund Money Market account. We will invest it into an account earning the highest interest and term available. Treasurer P. Bauman is authorized to open this account after checking with both C&N and FCCB to get the best available term and rate." All in favor.

S. Hall noted that our current sewer plant has been in operation for fifty years and we have not had to put in any major funding. George said it has been an exceptionally good plant and we have only had to take care of the nitrogen and phosphorus. Steve hopes the new one will run that well and last another fifty years. He hopes USDA will come back with an increased funding offer. J. Eckman said he is concerned with the uncertain times we are in. He also questions what HRG will do regarding the low bid that was withdrawn for a mathematical error. We will keep this meeting open to await a reply from USDA.

J.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

S. Bray is reviewing the Pall Study and will provide his report.

K.) BR DAM

L.) PAINT BR TANK-Wait until TR tank is completed.

M.) CYBERSECURITY

They will talk with CSR again and then set up the training sometime.

SECTION 3.

A.) HRG REQUEST #11

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George had #11 in the amount of \$4,239.12 which covers 3/28-5/1/22. S. Bray has reviewed it. A motion was made by J. Eckman, seconded by S. Hall, "This bill be approved for payment." All in favor. J. Bubacz and S. Hall signed the paper, and it will be returned via email. Requests #8, #9, #10 were returned but no payment has been authorized yet.

B.) REPSOL ROYALTY #53

The check was received but not the statement.

Leesa reported we got a check from Repsol that says, "free gas payment." We contacted them and they sent a letter stating that this is entitled to the surface owner of the land that the wellbore location is on. After review, they determined that the Authority is the surface owner for the Dorn pad. This will be deposited into the BWC Money Market account. We only own the surface not what is below which is owned by the Dorn's.

C.) C&N INTEREST STATEMENTS, CD'S, FCCB

The 5/22 statements were passed out.

***The Chairman asked Leesa to move Letter D and Letter E to Section 2: Old Business for the next meeting.

D.) LETTER D. BOGACZYK

The hearing has been rescheduled until 7/27. W. Stokes is going to set up a meeting with George, Cheryl, and Attorney P. Barrett to go over all our information gathered before the hearing for his Main St. building and his mother's S. Wmsn. Rd. account.

E.) TIMBER TAYLOR RUN

M. Stoudt will contact K. Geykis to give him the status on of the new tank. He will also check to see when M. Hale will be in to do the fern spraying. You can get through on 4 wheelers and we could take care of clearing out some of the old roads.

SECTION 4. BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT

A.) NEW EMPLOYEE

George took the matter to Council and a job description will have to be written up.

B.) FLUSH HYDRANTS

Dan had Leesa publish the notice in the PennySaver to flush hydrants in Blossburg and

Hamilton Twp. from 6/10-9/30. She asked Cheryl to put it on the Boro Web page.

C.) Leesa put in the packets the rules for meeting quorums and business.

D.) TIOGA RIVER MINE ACID DRAINAGE TREATMENT PLANT

Northcentral PA. Conservancy purchased 216 acres in the Boro from KLJ. This is behind St. Mary's Cemetery and bordered by White St./Old Bloss Road. They purchased it to aid in treating abandoned mine discharge on a neighboring property and discharge on this property. They are working with TCCCC, SRBC and PA. DEP on the project. They hope to clean up Coal Run on Gulick St. up to Mahosky's pallet mill in Morris Run. This plant will fall within Hamilton Twp., Ward Twp., and possibly Bloss Boro. July 11th they will meet at 9 AM at the Commuter parking lot across from the Quickfill on old 15. They should have a 10% design level drawing with them. Their design consultant will also attend along with the SRBC. When completed they will turn the land over to DEP for recreational use.

E.) We received the AWOP award again this year at the Bellman filter plant. Dan sends the data to Denver, CO., and he should be commended for the work he puts into this. M. Stoudt said to extend our thanks and congratulations.

F.) George received another letter from Selina Bogaczyk at 148 Lynd St. on the top of the hill next to where the old water tank had been. She is interested in the lots above her property on the Parkhurst St. side. She does not want to keep people from using the old trail or from riding ATVs there. Those that use the trail have been respectful when driving past the houses. She would like to get a section cleaned up, so her nieces and nephew have more ground to enjoy. M. Stoudt said there is a concern of liability insurance if we gave anyone permission to just use it and they got hurt. He also said we do not want to sell as there is a limited number of building properties available in town. Groundwork has been done but a sewer line has to be put in and the Boro has storm drains and other work. There is also a gas line behind Esther Vaughn's old home.

The Chairman will not adjourn this meeting in case we hear back on the new WWTP. Everyone left at 8:14 PM.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY

