

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
JULY 5, 2023

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

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

Chairman Stoudt called the meeting to order at 6:55 PM.

Section 1: All reports to be accepted in one motion

A.) MINUTES

The minutes from the 6/6/23 meeting were brought up for discussion. There was one correction.

B.) TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL PAYMENT

P. Bauman read the treasurer's report. For the bill list, Leesa noted to be added was a bill received from Pace for testing in sewer of \$150.00 and in water \$30.00. The stp water bill was received in the amount of \$3,066.55 and needs to be added also. The bill from Cleveland Brothers for the new CAT backhoe will be paid when we get it back and will be a 3-way split. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by S. Hall, "That the minutes, treasurer, and bill payment reports be accepted as presented." All in favor.

The Chairman asked the members that we take care of our guest S. Bray before continuing with the meeting, which they all agreed to.

They have been meeting to discuss putting the Taylor Run and Sportsman's well projects together then to do Bellman Filter and Bellman Chlorinator at a later time. Scott had presented proposals for doing water work in phases, which were put in the packets, from Martz Technologies. Phase #1 is for Taylor Run project and plant SCDA. There was information on the Sportsman's Well with VZRscada Integration. Phase #2 is is BR filter plant with Integration and BR metering building with Integration. We have to think about doing all the work now or waiting to do something later, which would cost more money. All proposals add up to almost \$300,000.00. The members discussed equipment, control panels , automation, and a system to monitor remotely. Scott has worked with Martz and LRM. They discussed electric lines, hard lines, and fiber lines. We have to upgrade the Sportsman's Well filter and Bellman Run. It was noted that Taylor should be a priority for down the road when UTRA will be coming on board. UTRA has

a tank on East Hill. J. Bubacz questioned the equipment operations, the computers, telephone poles and lines, and the phone systems. He will discuss that with CSR. Only one well will run at a time, depending upon the water and chlorine levels in the tanks. There will be a monitor in the chlorinator building showing the Ph, temperature, and chlorine residual. These can be seen in real time. There is a system in Shinglehouse we can go look at for putting that type in at the Sportsman's Well. You have to go through DEP which could take up to a year. It has been about thirty years since we first put in our system, so they are more efficient now. Ground water sources are better than above ground. S. Hall said the royalty checks we are receiving can be put toward Taylor Run. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by F. Wasowicz, "To proceed with installation work at Taylor Run." All in favor.

PAINT TANK

S. Bray had sent information to DEP regarding the BR tank but has heard nothing back yet. When approved he hopes to get proposals out and replies back in the fall. A company can work on the inside during the winter, but outside work has to dry.

NEW WWSTP/USER RATES

We have heard from RUS regarding our sewer user fees and having enough funds to cover our debt service plus be able to operate and pay the loan off. When we first started the project, they mandated what our billing rates needed to be. We had a gradual increase since 2018 which was less than the 50% per year RUS suggested. For the increase we made in 2019, we increased the minimum allowed usage from 5,000 gallons per quarter to 7,000 per quarter and the rate increase amount was 41%. The next increase we did made the minimum bill \$120.00 per quarter. Due to the delays we encountered with RUS we did not do another one. Now that the project has been started and is expected to be completed by 2025, we have to do one. We are using up interim funds then will be loan funds. The paperwork has been started to sign in the fall.

BR DAM

We had discussed repairs to the sediment pond and dam, but DEP said we would have to get a new permit which could cost between \$10-15,000.00. We should not have to get a new one. Leesa went back through the old files and gave the data to Scott, which he submitted, which they did not accept. It was suggested we talk with our State Rep. Owlett about the matter, all in favor.

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CASSELBERRY

S. Bray has been in contact with him regarding the proposed well on DCNR land by House's. It was suggested a meeting be set up with the House's to discuss the matter should we need an easement from them. Repsol had agreed to pay for the proposed work on this, since our sources of water are near their sites.

INFILTRATION

We have been doing other projects this summer and will get back on it later this year. Last Sunday we had rain, about 1.3" but the water was not up much at the stp.

There being nothing further to discuss with Scott, he was thanked by the members and left at 7:46 PM.

Section 2: Old Business

A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15.

Nothing on well. Dan will be flushing hydrants in Morris Run in the next few weeks. The hydrants were done here. The Foundry will be down for 3 weeks for inventory reductions and repairs, so Dan will be looking for leaks since there will be no activity at the Foundry. They also exercise the valves. M. Stoudt asked about the quality of the water, and it was not too bad and cleared up quickly.

B.) DELINQUENTS

The report was in the packets. Letters were sent and one person was shut off and paid. Another person was going to be shut off and when they saw the boys , they came down and paid.

C.) INFILTRATION

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

Things are moving along, and George hopes they can bid out in the fall.

E.) CASSELBERRY-Working on our projects.

F.) OLD HOSPITAL

They are doing demo work and have a temporary fence up, and to date no permit has been issued.

G.) TAYLOR RUN TANK/NEW CHLORINE BUILDING-Discussed

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H.) NEW STP

The SBR tanks are in. They started to fill them and should be finished on Monday, to check for leaks. We discussed the painting inside the building and the company has no problem of us doing the work and will show us what needs to be done. The building is not up.

I.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION-Discussed

J.) BR DAM-Discussed

K.) PAINT BR TANK-Hope to be done in the fall.

L.) CYBERSECURITY

J. Bubacz said they have a meeting on 7/11.

M.) NEW BACKHOE

They are doing the work and it should be back this week.

N.) GENERATORS

It will not be until spring when they are done.

O.) MURPHY TRAILER COURT

The members were given a copy of the reply sent from C. Lantz dated 6/7, and a reply back from John dated 6/20. He talks about property rights for 4 additional hookups. C. Lantz asked George if he had any further information to send it.

P.) BID OLD BACKHOE

The notice has been placed for sale on municibid, and the bid price is now up to \$20,999.00. The bidding is open until 7/19. George expected it would sell for \$15-20,000. We are not responsible for moving it, but the successful bidder has to come pick it up.

Q.) BLOSS TWP. BILLING

Cheryl will have to talk with the software people. At last month's meeting a motion was made that all information be gathered for a written proposal and brought back to the members.

R.) NOTICE TO OUR CUSTOMERS UPDATING NEW STP PROGRESS

To be brought back to the members for approval.

R.) NEW WWTP FUNDING

George said we are getting the paperwork ready to do the loan closing with FCCB in the fall. We are into interim financing and will then have to draw from the loan. We will have to make sure with our rates that we can start paying back the 40-year loan.

Section 3: New Business

A.) HRG REQUEST

George received Loan Requisition #8 to draw down funds from the Interim Construction Loan #67, with FCCB in the amount of \$2,420,501.37. This includes: 1.) HRG, \$5,862.00, engineering 5/1-5/28/23. 2.) Performance Construction, 5/1-5/31/23 in the amount of \$2,306,192.12. 3.) Tra Electric, 1/1-6/13/23 in the amount of \$26,319.75. 4.) AFT Mechanical, 6/1-6/30/23 in the amount of \$82,127.50. These bills have been reviewed. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we sign Requisition #8, per RUS approval." All in favor. J. Bubacz and S. Hall signed the request.

George also received Change Order No. 5 from Performance regarding Xylem recommended addition of 3 PH probes for the monitor SBR system for an increase of \$17,264.48. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we approve this pending RUS approval." All in favor. Change Order No. 6 from Performance for credit of actual materials used for the SBR foundation in the amount of \$128,352.99. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we approve this pending RUS approval." All in favor.

B.) ROYALTY PAYMENT-#66 was received on 6/26/23 and direct deposited into the BWC Royalties MMI. The monthly statement was received and put in the packets. Treasurer Bauman asked permission to transfer all but \$2,000.00 from the Royalties MMI to the Blossburg Water Co. MMI #6018 to earn the higher interest rate. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by F. Wasowicz, "That the Treasurer is authorized to do this transaction." All in favor. He will do this transfer online.

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

The C&N statement for 6/23 was put in the packets from LPL Financial and from FCCB.

The Treasurer checked the interest rates on CDs from both banks, but recommends we not open any since it is possible the Feds will raise the rates again in August.

Pat reported that the C&N 1-year brokerage with C&N that matured on 6/23 and was deposited into the BWC MMI #6018, was sewer money and not water. We will leave in the Water MMI to earn the higher interest rate and just ear mark it as sewer.

Pat also reported that since sewer billing income is coming in now, the balance in the sewer RFMMI balance is higher. He would request that we transfer \$140,000.00 out of the sewer RFMMI #7218 to the BWC MMI #6018 to earn the higher interest rate, instead of leaving it in the RFMMI, which earns less interest. We will ear mark it as sewer. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by F. Wasowicz, "That the Treasurer is authorized to do this transaction." All in favor. He will do this transfer online.

Section #4: Borough Manager's Report
All items discussed

Section #5: Other

A.) Leesa reported we got the 2024 Final Value Notification from the Tioga County Board of Assessment Revision, for all our properties. There are changes, but we do not pay taxes.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM on motion of S. Hall, seconded by P. Bauman, with all in favor.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY

