

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
JUNE 6, 2023

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, June 6, 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, and L. Lazouras, Recording Secretary.

Chairman Stoudt called the meeting to order at 6:58 PM.

Section 1: All reports to be accepted in one motion

A.) MINUTES

The minutes from the 5/2/23 meeting were brought up for discussion. There were no corrections.

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 Stoudt Electric for sewer, \$697.50 work at the stp. For water, \$603.50 for work at Bellman. The Treasurer asked if the Safety Deposit Box rental was always taken out of the sewer, and Leesa said it always has been, and is an automatic withdrawal from the sewer RF MMI. There being no further discussion on the bills, 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.

Section 2: Old Business

A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15

Nothing on the well. George reported they will be flushing hydrants starting Monday, June 12 and then on to Hamilton Twp, to be completed by 9/29. Dan continues looking for leaks. George said the water levels are good even with the dry weather, so we have been lucky.

B.) DELINQUENTS

George passed out the list. We have some places that are vacant but have liens against them. One person was going to be shut off but came in and made a good payment amount. We have the same problem, customers that make a payment, but don't pay in full, that we keep after. It was asked about yards being mowed on the vacant ones, and George will contact a mower, and that cost is added to the lien.

C.) INFILTRATION-Boys working other jobs.

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

They did not have to take anyone to trial for Eminent Domain. C. Lantz and Cheryl are working on recording all the deeds. In another month they should be able to move ahead to review the plans and bid out the project. George hopes that can occur this year. S. Hall asked about the size of the lines and the line to Covington will be either 10" or 12" and continue to Lowe's. It is an 8" down Canada Road, and there will be some smaller lines. He also asked about hydrants, and they will be every 400 feet. He said Covington needs to make sure they get re-rated on their insurance which will be a big savings.

E.) CASSELBERRY-Still working on our projects.

F.) OLD HOSPITAL

George said he and Mike talked with them and do not have the permit. They are trying to get funding. There is a fence up to secure the property since doing demo and abatement work inside.

G.) TAYLOR RUN TANK/NEW CHLORINE BUILDING

George gave the members a list of bills paid so far out of the American Rescue Plan from Covid federal money used for infrastructure. Bills were paid for Taylor Run in the amount of \$74,177.45 and for the Bellman Run chlorinator building \$6,052.75. Mike and Rusty are working on the electric up to Well #3 and have another 100 feet to get to the building. The block building has been started. They have started putting in the electric and then the generator and transfer switch. There is another part to the electricity from another company that can be linked together with this. A proposed price quote was received from LRM, through Costars, for instrumentation for the water treatment upgrade in the amount of \$39,624.07. This has to be reviewed by Dan and the engineers. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we accept this proposal pending the necessary reviews and clarifications." All in favor.

H.) NEW STP

George received HRG Change Order No. 02 for electrical construction with Tra Electric. This is a decrease of \$134,943.00, which is a credit for the SBR MCC and associated VFD's supplied by Xylem. This has to do with the computer system that drives everything. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we accept Change Order No. 02." All in favor.

George received HRG Change Order No. 03 for electrical construction with Tra Electric. This is an increase of \$6,256.55. This has to do with electrical

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components for powering (3) PH probes and (1) reader being supplied under the General Construction Contract. These additional probes will be installed at the Splitter Box per Xylems recommendation for better PH monitoring of the SBR system. A motion was made by P. Bauman, seconded by F. Wasowicz, "That we accept Change Order No. 03." All in favor.

George received from HRG an Amendment to owner-engineer agreement #4 for additional services, modification to services and of payment to engineer. The net change totals \$106,441.00, with increases and decreases. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by S. Hall, "That this Amendment be approved." All in favor. These changes all have to be approved by RUS.

When we first started, there was painting, putting up the fence, landscaping, and blacktop which we could do with our crew to cut back on costs. Painting inside the building should be done before the piping is put in. Mike and George will go over this with the engineer, to compare costs for us to do or a contractor to do. If we do it, we would not have to pay the prevailing wage. It will be within the next few weeks, so we will find out. The size of the pump and voltage needed will also be discussed.

I.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

S. Bray has been talking with the salesman about using a pall unit. There is another place installing one, so when completed he suggests we go look at it.

J.) BR DAM

K.) PAINT BR TANK

S. Bray is awaiting a reply from the DEP, so he can get proposals for the work. It was suggested that we talk with FCCB about putting their logo on it again.

L.) CYBERSECURITY

J. Bubacz has nothing to report.

M.) TIMBER TAYLOR RUN

The work is done, and grass is starting to grow. The timber mats were taken up. You can walk on the skid roads but are still rough to drive on. All the tops were left and not ground up to protect the seedlings. It was suggested asking Kerry Geykis if he has a final report, but noted he has been paid. M. Stoudt said there are amazing cherry trees and wonders what

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they will look like in another five years. All agree this be removed from the agenda.

N.) NEW BACKHOE

We got it a week ago and our boys have run it at Taylor Run. There was a part it was supposed to have and did not. He called the salesman, who checked the plans and said it will have to go back. It is a nice machine but there is a cylinder in your line of vision that the boys do not like, but this is the new CAT design, and it is heavy duty in the center. We received the invoice but will not write the check until the machine is back and correct.

O.) GENERATORS

Pending review we accepted the bid from Cummins. It will be next spring before any are received.

Section 3: New Business

A) HRG REQUEST

George received Loan Requisition #7 to draw down funds from the Interim Construction Loan #67, with FCCB in the amount of \$954,550.64. This includes: 1.) Performance Construction Payment No. 5, 4/1-4/30/23 in the amount of \$877,006.33. 2.) Larson Design Group, thru 5/13/23 in the amount of \$16,441.33. 3.) Kleinfelder, 3/1-4/9/23 in the amount of \$23,845.30 for professional personnel. 4.) HRG, \$37,257.68 engineering 2/27-4/30/23. These bills have been reviewed. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That we sign Requisition #7, per RUS approval." All in favor. J. Bubacz and S. Hall signed the request.

B.) ROYALTY PAYMENT-#65 was received on 5/26/23 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 J. Bubacz, "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 5/23 was put in the packets from LPL Financial and from FCCB. There is a 1-year brokerage CD with C&N that matures on 6/23 and the Treasurer requested this be deposited into the BWC MMI #6018 to earn the higher interest rate, and not be reinvested. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, "That the Treasurer is authorized to do this transaction." All in favor. We will need funds for the new backhoe.

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Section 4: Borough Manager's Report

A.) LETTER FROM JOHN MURPHY-TRAILER COURT GULICK ST.

The Boro, Codes Officer M. Stoudt and Attorney Barrett received a letter from Attorney John Murphy, dated 5/24 regarding he and Walt Grabowski's trailer court on Briar Patch Lane, off Gulick St. He wants to sell this, but Howard Hanna Real Estate told the managers that they said they could not sell it due to the fact that the Borough is not allowing any more sewer hook ups until 2025 or later, and there are 4 hook ups in question. We cannot do any hookups since we have been under the Consent Order with DEP. We could refund the 4 hookup fees. The members suggest the matter be discussed with our attorney, C. Lantz.

B.) George asked if we could bid out our old 2002 backhoe since we will have the new one. He hopes we can get \$15-20,000 from the sale. He will also take this to the Council since it was originally a three-way split when bought. The members agreed this can be done through municibid.

C.) A discussion was held on doing the water billing for Bloss Twp. There will be a cost for Cheryl to do it, plus meter readings which George said Chad and he would have to do. It was asked how many bills are done and what does their current secretary get paid for doing the bills. S. Hall suggested there should be a clause for either party to agree to terminate in a written agreement plus, it should be done for a temporary trial basis, like 3 months to see how long and how much it will actually cost us. A motion was made by S. Hall, seconded by F. Wasowicz, "That all information be gathered for a written proposal." All in favor.

D.) George and Cheryl wondered about sending a notice to our customers, with one of the bills that will be going out, updating the new stp progress. He gave the members a sample that was written. Mike said it should include that it will allow us to expand our services. Frank said we had no choice but to do it since we were mandated by the State, and have to meet outflow requirements per DEP. We are lucky that the old plant lasted much longer than expected. We were also fortunate to receive grant and loan money to pay for the project. The notice will be rewritten and brought back to the members.

Section 5: Other

A.) The Chairman read a thank you received from the Library for our donation in memory of Dave Jones.

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B.) G. Lloyd advised the members that our July meeting falls on the 4th, which is a holiday. He asked Leesa what our rules are, and it is to be held the next business day, which will be Wednesday the 5th.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:56 PM on motion of S. Hall, seconded by J. Bubacz, with all in favor.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY