

REGULAR MEETING BLOSSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
JULY 2, 2024

The regular meeting of the Blossburg Municipal Authority was held on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

The following members were present: Chairman M. Stoudt, Vice Chair 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.

The Chairman 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 6/4/24 meeting were brought up for discussion. There were two corrections. George noted that the mine acid project in Morris Run has started, they got easements signed, the funding is in place and plan to be completed by the end of 2025.

B.) TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILL PAYMENT

Treasurer P. Bauman read the treasurer's report and bill list. The final bill was received from Amstar for the Bellman Run tank painting in the amount of \$94,400.00. They subcontract for the cathodic process which will be done next year. Leesa noted on the sewer bill list, she entered a Pace testing bill in the amount of \$80.80, and it should have been \$180.80, so it will be changed. 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.

Section 2: Old Business

A.) WATER UPDATE. SALT WELL 15

B) DELINQUENTS

Report in the packets. 48-hour notices were put out.

C.) INFILTRATION

Since we will have funds left from the project, and into the grant money stage, George asked if these could be put toward relining, which had been part of the original project. We have used Insight Pipe Contracting in the past. He estimate areas and costs: 1.) 8" line on west side of N. Wmsn. from the Eckman property down to the pump house and the line under the Tioga River to Ruah. There is a manhole behind Leesa's. \$282,828.00. 2.) 12" main line along the Tioga River \$155,008.00. 3.) 15" main line along Tioga River from pump house to 8" line under Tioga River from Ruah. \$149,952.00.

4.) Reinstate service laterals. \$36,930.00. These total about \$624,718.00. An alternate is Main St. from Carpenter to Davis Lane (areas previously lined will not be done again). \$275,579.20. Grand total of both \$900,297.20. A motion was made by S. Hall, second by F. Wasowicz, 'That we submit this request to RUS for approval to use left over grant money for infiltration.' All in favor. M. Stoudt asked how deep the line by the Methodist is, and George said it is between 10-11 ft.

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

In a meeting last week with RUS they said they had no more extra money in their budget this year. Their project started out much lower. We experienced the same problem with all the delays and our prices increased. They would like to bid out the project this fall, to see what amounts will come in, and what additional amount they would have to find. UTRA has started looking for other funding sources. They would have to rebid if they do not have the money.

E.) CASSELBERRY

George talked with him and is happy that the Taylor Run Well is online and working well. He will be coming to Arnot in September for the drilling of their secondary source. They are looking at grant money through a DEP program.

F.) OLD HOSPITAL

It has been quiet. The plans have to go through a code review since there are new changes so the original request is obsolete. They are still waiting for funding. It was noted there is a cover over the roof, but more windows are out now.

G.) TAYLOR RUN TANK/NEW CHLORINE BUILDING

M. Stoudt is ecstatic that it is now set up for automatic mode, so it does not have to be run manually as it was tested today. They will next get lights and alarms for security. The next thing would be to set up to control the system remotely. Mike said they will have to establish what accounts will have access to control this. At the sewer plant the phone call out system is working correctly. It was noted that at any time you will be able to go back to manual. At the tank they will also set up a monitor to read the chlorine before it goes into the tank. LRM will help with the chlorine monitor and the size of the pit.

M. Stoudt said at Taylor Run the LP gas tank has to have a certified technician check it regularly. We got a letter since it is an underground propane tank. It was just put in last year and not put into service until this spring. The cost may be around \$50.00, which is reasonable. He will contact someone to get us on their schedule. George said the fuel tanks at the Island are inspected every 3 years.

S. Bray had submitted our operation permit request for Public Water Supply to DEP last month, for the Bellman tank final certificate, and they approved it.

George will set up a meeting with Harold and Janice House to discuss getting access on their property to the other well, which will be on DCNR's property. Repsol said they would pay for this well. It was noted we should get this project started because we do not know how long they will be here. We currently have to pay DCNR Forestry annually for ½ of 1% of the gross receipts and 1/3 of water received from State Forest land. This is our water lease Fm-7272 dated 1/1/89, for Bellman. We will have to do the same thing with this new well.

H.) NEW STP

We still have to do blacktop work down there. There is a detention area for water. The grass planted has started to fill in and the boys have cut the grass.

A letter was sent to RUS in DC requesting a formal waiver from the American Iron & Steel requirements for two backflow preventors, one in the control building and one in the headworks building. Several companies were contacted but the contractor could not find any manufacturer in the US to meet the specs, so we requested to use foreign products instead.

An email was received from Luke at HRG for substantial completion and final completion time extensions. He is looking at having AFT Mechanical extend substantial completion date to 4/30/24 and final on 8/31 due to the AIS paperwork. They had met regarding the grit system, and he thinks it could be online in 3 weeks, so he is considering having Performance and Tra Electric request a time extension for substantial on 7/19 and final on 8/31. He expects the three to be complete by 8/31 and this eliminates having to keep doing these. Will the proposed final date of 8/31 need extended due to potential paving and Scada upgrades from additional USDA funds, he asked.

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George had Kappe come to see the reason for the grit problem, and it was corrected. When the sludge comes out it goes into a 20-yard container that will be taken to the landfill. We had a problem with a propellor, but Performance helped us with it.

I.) BRAY WTP EVALUATION

Taylor is working and the Bellman tank painting is done. We will shut down the Gun Club to change the media. Mike will work on the generator to get that going and then do the transfer switch.

J.) BR DAM

K.) PAINT BR TANK

Completed and we will have them come back next May to check as it will be under warranty. The cathodic protection will also be checked then.

L.) CYBERSECURITY

J. Bubacz said the switch for the stp came and he met Matt there. They will do the work on the cables to move access closer to being plugged in.

The training was completed for the second quarter, and 50% is done for the third quarter. They met with CSR to discuss a proposal for equipment needed for next year. They will talk to Martz and SCADA to do the well and stp at the same time.

M.) GENERATORS

M. Stoudt said we are waiting for the one for the Sportsman's Well which is to be here this month, and he will call them to check. The one at Taylor is working well.

N.) BLOSS TWP. BILLINGS

O.) METERS

P.) FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT

Leesa talked with DJ Cummings, and she said when we file, there will not be a fee to pay, but we will have to pay the postage for mailing. If a constable is used to serve the person, we would pay that fee, but we are not required to use one. I told her we purchased the hydrant, but it has not been replaced yet, and there will be labor charges. We need to have the total cost when we file.

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Section 3: New Business

A) HRG REQUEST-No. 11 USDA

This is from funding grant money. It includes: 1.) HRG for engineering from 4/29-5/26/24 in the amount of \$13,504.50. 2.) Performance from 5/10-6/13/24 in the amount of \$15,206.00. 3.) Tra Electric from 6/1-6/30/24 in the amount of \$44,246.98. 4.) AFT Mechanical from 4/10-6/30/24 in the amount of \$14,231.25. 5.) Larson Design thru 6/5/24 in the amount of \$3,610.55. The total is \$90,793.28. A motion was made by J. Bubacz, seconded by P. Bauman, "That we sign Requisition #11 USDA, per their approval." All in favor. S. Hall and J. Bubacz signed the paperwork.

B.) REPSOL ROYALTY

#78 was received 6/20/24 and direct deposited into the BWC Royalties MMI. The report was in the packets. The Treasurer transferred all but \$2,000.00 to avoid a bank charge, to BWC MMI #6018. Mike thinks the amounts will start to pick up again.

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

The statements were in the packets. The sewer LPL 6-month CD matured on 6/17, so Pat opened a 2-year JPMorgan Chase CD LPL paying 5.4% interest, in the amount of \$210,000. The face was \$200,000.00, and he added earned sewer interest to make the new amount.

D.) An email dated 6/6 from Tom Wellington, RUS, was received since the WWTP construction is coming to completion, there are several requirements, which are listed, regarding the Letter of Conditions. Some of these items have already been done and Cheryl is going through it. We have already set up the Debt Service Account and will talk to Heather at FCCB about opening another sewer account for the short-lived asset reserve account.

Section 4: Borough Manager's Report

A booklet was received from PA. DEP, Bureau of Safe Drinking water when they performed a filter plant performance evaluation on April 8-9, 2024. We received an overall "Commendable" performance rating for our ability to remove and inactivate waterborne pathogens through optimized filter plant performance. We have a few items to address. This is a great job by Dan.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:38 PM, with all in favor.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY