

NEWPORT BOROUGH WATER AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 5, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT – Penny Frownfelter, Harry Fahnestock, John McNaughton, and Trevor Kaufman. Gerald Robinson is absent

OTHERS PRESENT – Adam Britcher (Solicitor) Robert Hasemeier (Engineer) and Dean Miller (Operations Manager).

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – by Chairwoman Penny Frownfelter at 7:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Robert Hasemeier

1. USDA Meter Financing – The application is still in progress and there are additional attachments to be completed. A separate engineer/client agreement will need to be signed.

Moved by Kaufman, seconded by McNaughton to allow the Authority members to sign an engineer/client agreement for the USDA Meter Financing. Motion carried unanimously.

2. CBDG public hearing – Frownfelter and Hasemeier attended a public hearing for the Central Business Development Grant process for Perry County on May 23rd. After the meeting, the County Planner asked about Howe Dam. The county is developing a hazard mitigation plan and if the funds become available, the dam would already be identified and could qualify for FEMA funds. A letter identifying the plan to breach the dam and allow the stream to resume its natural flow; and to request funding is included in the Board packet for approval.

Resolution 2019-2 of NBWA electing to be included in the hazard mitigation plan and allowing the Chair authorization to sign the request on behalf of the Board.

Moved by Fahnestock, seconded by Kaufman to approve Resolution 2019-2. Motion carried unanimously.

The Corrosion Control equipment for Wells 10 and 14 is considered equipment replacement so would not be eligible for funding. Funding for Well 1 looks promising because there are significant upgrades to the equipment being replaced. If there are no other eligible applicants for the \$250,000 funds that are available for Perry County, then the entire amount for Well 1 will be submitted. At the meeting, the other projects that were proposed received negative responses, so it is possible that the project at Well 1 may be the only project eligible for the funding. The deadline for additional project submissions is June 20th.

At the hearing, Frownfelter and Hasemeier were informed that a survey would need to be completed to show that a majority of residents affected by the project are moderate to low income. However, Hasemeier was able to provide a technical demonstration based on where the distribution system is and what the census numbers are, to show that 51% or more of the residents are low income, so the survey will probably not be necessary.

3. DEP meeting – There was a meeting on April 25th regarding the water system deficiencies noted in the letter from DEP. Miller is already beginning to act on the requests and included in the Board packet is the letter Hasemeier has written responding to DEP.

Moved by McNaughton, seconded by Kaufman to approve sending the response letter to DEP. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Bretz Court – A request has been submitted for service, but not enough information has been received to move forward. Hasemeier has requested additional information, also the developers will need to set up an escrow account.
5. Buffalo Crossing – There was a meeting with Adam Davis on May 28th, concerning the layout of the water system. The developers need to obtain a driveway permit and a highway occupancy permit. Their current plan is to go out to bid by the end of the year and start construction the summer of 2020. They are currently working on a draft easement agreement for the Burkholder property.

Moved by Kaufman, seconded by McNaughton to send the reimbursement agreement for water modeling to the developers. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Revenue opportunity – Shawn Sweeney has proposed an opportunity for the Water Authority to generate additional revenue. A1 Power is a company looking to market alternative energy sources, such as from a solar farm, to PPL customers. The Water Authority would be to paid to bill customers for A1 Power.

OPERATIONAL REPORT – Dean Miller

1. Update 5th/6th/Fickes – No complaints during the last 30 days. Now that the weather is warmer, the flushing devices have been deployed in that area.
2. River Plant operation – The plant continues to run as much as possible based on the water quality in the Juniata River, which is influenced by rainfall.
3. Lead/Copper Testing & Corrosion Control Feasibility study – Most of the sampling has been concluded and the information has been sent to a vendor to be put into a model. The results have been given to Hasemeier who will complete the study by the due date at the end of the month.
4. Consumer Confidence report – The report is due by June 30th and the June billing gave notice to customers that it will be available July 1st on the Authority's website.
5. Comprehensive Management Plan – Work continues on the plan, which is complicated by multiple water sources going to one entry point. Miller is confident that it will be completed and submitted by the due date of August 19th.
6. 59 Red Hill Rd – The owner of a property next to the Booster Station/PRV has filed a written complaint, claiming that water is running from the Authority's property across his property. The operators visited the property during a rainstorm and observed that water does not run from the PRV property onto his property. Instead, they noted that water collects from all properties and runs downhill alongside the road.
7. Power surge – On May 7th two PPL transformers blew out which caused power outages, a surge and significant damage. The pump at Well 10 was burnt out and Control 21 was needed to reset systems. An insurance claim has been submitted.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Adam Britcher

1. Howe Township letter – Included in the Board packet is a copy of the Letter of Agreement from Howe Township allowing them access to the property. The engineering plans were sent to Miller and Hasemeier, and Hasemeier has signed off on the project.
2. Personal Property & Real Estate Claims – The hearing for the property at 499 N Front St was on June 4th, the owner has 30 days to appeal and after that the Sheriff will levy the personal property. There are personal property hearings for 149 and 161 N Front St on June 24th.
3. Liens/Sheriff Sales – There are none this month.

TREASURER'S REPORT –

1. Delinquent Accounts –

Moved by Kaufman, seconded by Fahnestock to approve the May Treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.

Frownfelter noted that current income is about \$20,000 over projected income for the year to date.

Moved by Kaufman seconded by Fahnestock to approve May bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by McNaughton, seconded by Kaufman to approve the May Adjustment Report. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Moved by Fahnestock, seconded by McNaughton to approve the May 6, 2019 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Sewer separation – The Sewer Authority is considering separating their billing from the Water Authority and beginning their own billing system, effective January 1, 2020. They are requesting the costs to purchase a copy of the Water Authority's database and to purchase monthly or quarterly reads.
2. 640 Oliver St – The house at this address burned down on May 22nd, so the Real Estate claim is on hold, however the Water Authority does have a current lien on the property. The Borough has given the property owners 30 days to begin clean-up and 60 days to complete it. Monthly billing will continue until the water line is permanently capped.

BOARD COMMENTS –

1. Frownfelter commented that it would be useful to confirm how many EDU's are in each building and what the meter situation is in each building; and that surveying the system should be done while the meters are being changed out. Miller and Hasemeier agreed that it could be put into the contract to have properties assessed, along with purchasing a supply of extra meters for the properties that have more EDU's than what is currently in the system. Pictures of connections and meter configurations can be taken at that time and uploaded into Muni-Link.

ADJOURNMENT – Moved by Fahnestock, seconded by Kaufman to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Debra Kunish
Recording Secretary