

NEWPORT BOROUGH WATER AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
October 19, 2021

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

OTHERS PRESENT – Adam Britcher (Solicitor) Robert Hasemeier/Eric Trembly (Engineers) and Dean Miller (Operations Manager).

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – by Chairwoman Penny Frownfelter at 6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Robert Hasemeier, Eric Trembly (Engineer report included in Board packet)

1. Meter replacement – The specifications of the meter exchange is expected to be sent to USDA by October 22nd. B&L is authorized to proceed with bidding.
2. Juniata River crossing – The concept plan is nearing completion and the most feasible route for the pipe has been determined. Additional work at the Howe booster station will be required. B&L is working on the estimated cost. FEMA funds may be available, however that would require a 25% match.
3. SRBC docket review – SRBC is requesting additional information for continued participation in the Municipal Assistance program, which helps with docket renewals. The application, to remain in compliance, is due by November 14th.
4. Well #1 – The Notice to Proceed has been issued. Well and stream monitoring equipment has been installed and ambient data collected. There has been difficulty connecting with Calgon, the filter manufacturer, for the necessary system review.
5. Hillside apartments – The next step is for the owner to submit an application for service with the required deposit check. The county has 4.5 million in COVID funds, which could possibly be used for this project. The Authority's responsibility would end at the meter pit, placed near the 6th street connection, any pressure problems would need to be addressed by the owner. Dean will provide a letter to be sent to the owner.
6. PennDot emergency permit – Effort is being made to obtain an Emergency Permit Certificate from PennDot. Access to the Authority's account has been requested from PennDot. The HOP's will be filed as soon as possible.
7. COVID funds – Hasemeier requested the dollar amount and number of customers helped with the funds. This will be provided at the November meeting.

OPERATIONAL REPORT – Dean Miller

1. Update 5th/6th/Fickes – There have been no complaints last month. The water quality has greatly improved in the area of Fickes Lane and the Board could consider lessening the discount from 50% to 25% off effective January 1st. Another option would be to eliminate the discount completely.
2. River Plant operation – The River Plant is running well.

3. Lead & Copper – The annual testing has been completed; the results were below the 90th percentile. There were 2 addresses above the level, 1 for lead and 1 for copper. All results have been sent to customers and DEP.
4. The repair of a leak on 6th St, which is a PennDot road, will be completed Wednesday. There will be flaggers to handle lane shifts since the road will not be completely closed. The repair will also require road restoration.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Adam Britcher

1. There was a tax sale, however none of the properties in default to the Authority sold.
2. The next loan requisition will need to use the original deposit of \$19,000 that remains in the Bank of Landisburg account. Britcher will be consulted prior to the next requisition and confirm with bond counsel.

TREASURER'S REPORT –

1. Delinquent Accounts –

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

Moved by McNaughton seconded by Kaufman to approve September bills. Motion carried unanimously.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Moved by McNaughton seconded by Kaufman to approve the September 14, 2021 regular meeting minutes and to approve the mid-month Budget meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS –

1. Approved 2021-22 budget – The revised and approved budget is in the Board packet
2. Vacation/Sick time – Tabled for the November meeting.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Breakroom fridge – The freezer is broken on fridge in the breakroom and the ice is needed for water samples.

Moved by Kaufman, seconded by Fahnestock to approve the purchase of a new refrigerator up to the cost of \$1,000. Motion carried unanimously.

2. MMO – Pension plan MMO included for Board review.
3. Act 43 – The act was put into place August 30, 2021 and allows property owners who have multi-family dwellings to look at their usage every 5 years. They may be eligible to request a refund on minimum billing.

4. LIHWAP program – It is a low-income program and customers may receive up to \$2,500. The Authority would need to apply to be included in the program.

BOARD COMMENTS –

Frownfelter reported that Representative Perry Stambough toured the River Plant last week. He was very complimentary and interested in what the Authority has achieved.

ADJOURNMENT – Moved by Kaufman, seconded by Fahnestock to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Debra Kunish
Recording Secretary