

The Regular Meeting of the Bloomsburg Municipal Authority Board was held Tuesday, February 9, 2021, beginning at 4:00pm via teleconference through Zoom.

Chair Thomas Evans presided. Those present included Vice-Chair Vincent DeMelfi; Board Members Lawrence Mack and Jared Harris; Assistant Plant Superintendent Mark Tappe; Maintenance/Collection System Supervisor Josh Young; George Myers and Jeff Slabinski, Myers Environmental Services; Solicitor Alvin Luschas, Luschas, Naparsteck & Crane LLP; Steven Siegfried, P.E., Rettew; Secretary/Office Manager Amber Kenney and Billing and Collections Director Amy Seamans. Also present was Peggy Miller, Rettew Associates, Inc. and Eric Ness, Bloomsburg University. Absent was Treasurer Michael Upton.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD – PEGGY MILLER, RETTEW ASSOCIATES, INC.

P. Miller gave a history of the Authority's copper limit issue for new Board Member, Jared Harris. She reported that DEP has stated that they will only evaluate our information but it must be a formal major amendment submission. DEP also questioned where the effluent from the plant discharges into the river. It was determined by looking at an aerial photo of the river that there isn't a sufficient mixing zone. There is a cost and time factor if the Authority were to do a mixing zone study. The DEP representative that she spoke to noted that another plant up river did a mixing zone study. P. Miller feels it would be helpful to obtain a copy of their study but it will take some time as the DEP office in Williamsport is closed to the public due to COVID. Board members agreed that P. Miller should pursue attempting to obtain a copy of the mixing zone study for review.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 12, 2021 MINUTES

On a motion by L. Mack, seconded by V. DeMelfi and voted on unanimously, the Board approved the January 12, 2021 minutes without any additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 27, 2021 MINUTES

On a motion by L. Mack, seconded by V. DeMelfi and voted on unanimously, the Board approved the January 27, 2021 minutes without any additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE BILLS FOR JANUARY

On a motion by J. Harris, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment of the monthly operating and maintenance bills for January in the amount of \$816,585.07.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY SEWER MAINTENANCE BILLS FOR JANUARY

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment of the monthly sewer maintenance bills for January in the amount of \$3,424.62.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO GHD, INC.

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment to GHD, Inc. in the amount of \$18,325.25 for engineering services associated with the WWTP Improvements Project from the Construction account.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT NO. 4 TO MASTER MECHANICAL CORP.

On a motion by J. Harris, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment No. 4 to Master Mechanical Corp. in the amount of \$9,637.34 for Mechanical Construction Services of the WWTP Improvement Project from the Construction account.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO MEPUSH, INC.

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by J. Harris and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment to MePush, Inc. in the amount of \$166.25 for the installation of a new router and switch at the plant for the WWTP Improvement Project from the Construction account.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT NO. 9 TO PERFORMANCE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC.

On a motion by L. Mack, seconded by J. Harris and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment No. 9 to Performance Construction Services, Inc. in the amount of \$446,429.32 for General Construction Services of the WWTP Improvements Project from the Construction account.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO ROTO-ROOTER SEWER & DRAIN

On a motion by J. Harris, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment to Roto-Rooter Sewer & Drain in the amount of \$725.00 to camera and vacuum an electrical conduit at the plant for the WWTP Improvement Project from the Construction account.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO FIRST COLUMBIA BANK & TRUST CO. FROM THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY EMPLOYEE PENSION FUND

On a motion by J. Harris, seconded by V. DeMelfi and voted on Three (3) (J. Harris, V. DeMelfi and L. Mack voting “Yes”) to One (1) Abstention (T. Evans “Abstaining”), the Board approved payment to First Columbia Bank & Trust Co. in the amount of \$1,600.23 from the Municipal Authority Employee Pension Fund for quarterly trustee fees.

LEGAL UPDATE

Solicitor Luschas reported that there are four outstanding matters concerning the floodwall. First, the Authority needs to be reimbursed for the legal and engineering expenses that were incurred from the easement requests. A. Kenney noted that the expenses currently amount to approximately \$20,000. After Solicitor Luschas contacted Tyler Dombroski of SEDA-COG to inquire how to go about getting reimbursed, T. Evans received an email from Town Manager Lisa Dooley stating that T. Dombroski had informed the Town that the Columbia County Water Mitigation Authority would not be releasing any additional grant funding towards the floodwall project so it would be an unbudgeted expense for the Town. Solicitor Luschas stated he was still going to pursue getting reimbursed. Secondly, the sewer lines that were relocated on the school’s property need to be documented. S. Siegfried noted that he reached out to the school district’s engineer, Andy Keister of McTish, Kunkel & Associates and he is going to send him the CAD drawings. Third and fourth, the ownership of the pump stations needs to be sorted out along with an operation and maintenance agreement. Solicitor Luschas has been corresponding with Eric Stahley from the County and a meeting will be set up a meeting with him and G. Myers.

APPROVAL OF HIRING RYAN LONGENBERGER AS SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR

On a motion by J. Harris, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved hiring Ryan Longenberger as Special Projects Coordinator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant with a start date to be determined. J. Slabinski stated that the salary would be \$60,000.

APPROVAL OF INTERNALLY POSTING THE OPERATOR/LAB TECHNICIAN POSITION

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved the Operator/Lab Technician position being posted internally at the wastewater treatment plant.

APPROVAL OF SEWER BILL CREDIT FOR SHIRLEY BROBST AT 923 OLD BERWICK ROAD

On a motion by L. Mack, seconded by V. DeMelfi and voted on unanimously, the Board approved a sewer credit for Shirley Brobst (renter) in the amount of \$77.45 for her 11/30/20, 12/31/20 and 01/31/21 bills for a water leak underneath their trailer.

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 5:18pm.

AMBER KENNEY
Secretary/Office Manager