

A regular meeting of the Bloomsburg Municipal Authority Board was held Tuesday, April 9, 2019, 4:00pm in the Conference Room of the Municipal Authority Office, 1000 Market Street, Suite 9, Bloomsburg, PA.

Thomas Evans presided. Those present included Board Members Claude Renninger, Lawrence Mack, Carey Howell and Vince DeMelfi; Interim Plant Superintendent Mark Tappe; Maintenance/Collection System Supervisor Josh Young; George Myers and Jeff Slabinski, Myers Environmental Services; Steven Siegfried, P.E., Rettew; Solicitor Alvin Luschas, Derr, Pursel, Luschas and Naparsteck LLP; E. Charles Wunz, P.E.; Secretary/Office Manager Amber Kenney and Billing and Collections Director Amy Seamans.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 12, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by L. Mack, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, the Board approved the March 12, 2019 meeting minutes without any additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE BILLS FOR MARCH

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment of the monthly operating and maintenance bills for March in the amount of \$445,326.93.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY SEWER MAINTENANCE BILLS FOR MARCH

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment of the monthly sewer maintenance bills for March in the amount of \$8,527.11.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO RENCO ACE HARDWARE FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH INVOICES

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by C. Howell and voted on Four (4) (V. DeMelfi, C. Howell, T. Evans and L. Mack voting "Yes") to One (1) Abstention (C. Renninger "Abstaining"), the Board approved payment to Renco Ace Hardware in the amount of \$20.96 for February invoices and \$86.76 for March invoices.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO RETTEW, INC.

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment to Rettew, Inc. in the amount of \$3,254.50 from the Construction account.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO GHD, INC.

On a motion by L. Mack, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment to GHD, Inc. in the amount of \$46,621.76 from the Construction account.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO KAYLOR, ALLWEIN & HARTMAN, INC.

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved payment to Kaylor, Allwein & Hartman, Inc. in the amount of \$2,840.00 from the Construction account.

LEGAL UPDATE

Solicitor Luschas reported that he is still working with Tyler Dombroski from SEDA-COG on the easements that are needed for the Town and School District flood wall protection project. He is also working with Attorney Jeff Hill, solicitor for the Columbia County Housing Corporation on the non-issuance of the sewer permit and EDU issue for their project on West Sixth Street. Solicitor Luschas stated he was asked a few meetings ago about the Town Compost Site being on Authority land. He recommends that a value of the office space and meeting space that the Authority used at Town Hall be calculated and then be paid by the Town monthly.

APPROVAL OF RETTEW, INC. DEVELOPING BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SEWER LINES ON WEST EIGHTH STREET, WEST NINTH STREET AND COLUMBIA AVENUE BETWEEN MARKET AND WEST STREETS

On a motion C. Howell, seconded by V. DeMelfi and voted on unanimously, the Board approved Rettew, Inc. developing bid specifications for the reconstruction of sewer lines on West Eighth Street, West Ninth Street and Columbia Avenue between Market and West Streets. It was noted that this will need to be completed as soon as possible so the work can be completed prior to the Town paving these streets this summer.

SCOTT TOWNSHIP FLOWS

Scott Township flows averaged 522,333 gallons during the month of March.

APPROVAL OF FORWARDING CUSTOMERS WITH MORE THAN ONE SEWER COLLECTIONS ACCOUNT TO THE LOCAL DISTRICT MAGISTRATE

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by L. Mack and voted on unanimously, the Board approved staff forwarding customers with more than one sewer collections account to the local District Magistrate.

SOUTH CENTRE TOWNSHIP ACT 537 PLAN

C. Wunz stated he was asked to look at South Centre's Act 537 Plan for the proposed wastewater collection, conveyance, and connection to the Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority system. He reported that he will be submitting comments to South Centre by this Friday, the comment period deadline, and will need T. Evans to sign the document.

REQUEST FROM TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG FOR RELIEF OF DELINQUENT SEWER CHARGES

T. Evans explained that nothing has changed from the last time the Town asked for relief from the delinquent sewer charges that transferred over into collections. In August of last year, the Board approved removing the penalty and interest from the current bill on all of the accounts. He is not in favor or excusing the delinquent sewer amounts. Members reviewed the agreement that was sent to the Municipal Authority dated May 16, 2018. It states, "Also, the Authority should begin billing the Town for the sewer services it utilizes". Staff directed the billing company that day to start billing the Town.

Council Member James Garman was present and asked if there was anything in writing for when the Authority office was at Town Hall and in return the Town didn't receive sewer bills for its buildings. A. Kenney stated that there is nothing in writing. J. Garman stated that then it's a gentleman's agreement and that the sewer billing shouldn't have started until the Authority left the Town Hall.

V. DeMelfi stated that it's such a nominal amount and the Town and the Authority are going to have to work together in the future. T. Evans stated that it will be sent to the Solicitor for review.

APPROVAL OF ENGAGEMENT LETTER FROM GOLDBERG & BALTHASER, P.C. FOR AS NEEDED ACCOUNTING SERVICES

On a motion by C. Renninger, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, the Board approved an engagement letter from Goldberg & Balthaser, P.C. for as needed accounting services. A. Kenney expressed that this is needed to due to the passing of Carol Mas.

APPROVAL OF SEWER BILL CREDIT FOR JOE GUSHEN AT 36 E. RIDGE AVENUE

On a motion by C. Renninger, seconded by V. DeMelfi and voted on unanimously, the Board approved a sewer bill credit in the amount of \$92.34 for Joe Gushen's property located at 36 E. Ridge Avenue. Mr. Gushen wrote that in the first week of February an employee opened a wrong valve resulting in a garden hose running overnight. The hose was located in a very large outdoor tree planter resulting in the water going on the ground and not entering the sanitary sewer system.

APPROVAL OF SEWER BILL CREDIT FOR PAUL THOMAS, III AT 120 E. TENTH STREET

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, the Board approved a sewer bill credit in the amount of \$65.76 for Paul Thomas, III property located at 120 E. Tenth Street. Mr. Thomas wrote that he had a frozen pipe that leaked underneath the mobile home resulting in the water going on the ground and not entering the sanitary sewer system.

DENIAL OF SEWER BILL CREDIT FOR KEITH LEIGHOW AT 401 E. MAIN STREET

The Board reviewed a request from Keith Leighow who rents the commercial building at 401 E. Main Street. He wrote that he had the water turned off on January 9, 2019. When he continued to receive a bill, he contacted the office and the additional three-month billing policy and shut off fee was explained to him. He paid the February billing and will pay the \$2.61 penalty and the shut off fee but is asking for relief from the March and April billings. The Board denied the request so it would not set a precedent for any future requests from customers.

APPROVAL OF COLLECTIONS FEES AND PENALTY CREDIT FOR SHARON BABB AT 501 AND 515 EAST STREET

The Board reviewed a request from Sharon Babb concerning her collections accounts. She is asking for credit of the collection fees and penalty charges for 501 and 515 East Street. A. Seamans reported that the balance for 501 East Street is from several years ago but there has been recent transfers for 515 East Street. The Board agreed to remove the collection fees for both properties in the total amount of \$962.12 and the penalty in the amount of \$132.01 for 501 East Street but not for 515 East Street.

APPROVAL OF ADJUSTING CONSUMPTION FOR BILLING PURPOSES FOR DILLON FLORAL CORPORATION

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, the Board approved adjusting the water consumption for billing purposes (February) for Dillon Floral Corporation to reflect the 3-year average monthly flow. Dillon has been experiencing an equipment malfunction from November 30, 2018 through January 25, 2019 which has led to excessive consumption being released to the ground. This water did not enter the sanitary sewer system.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:56pm.

AMBER KENNEY
Secretary/Office Manager