

BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

July 19, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Eby
Tim Edkin
Steve Lanich
Jerry May
Andy Swales

OTHER ATTENDEES: Kelly Gill – SBWJA
Shirley Gryczuk
Renee Swancer

CALL TO ORDER:

The July 19, 2016, Regular Meeting of the Benner Township Water Authority was called to order at 6:32 P.M. by Tom Eby, Chairman.

ROLL CALL:

Tim Edkin, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording four members present. Mr. Swales entered the meeting at 6:38 p.m. Mr. Eby, Chairman, noted that with a quorum present, the Benner Township Water Authority was permitted to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

The Minutes of the June 21, 2016 regular meeting were presented for review. **Mr. Edkin moved, seconded by Mr. Eby to approve the Minutes of the June 21, 2016 Regular Meeting as presented. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Lanich reviewed the Treasurer's Report as presented and indicated there were no Paid Checks processed between meetings. Mr. Lanich asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the Bills by Vendor submitted for approval. **Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. Edkin to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and the Bills by Vendor in the amount of \$7,796.81.** 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

SBWJA REPORT:

Benner Elementary School Former Well – Following the last meeting Mr. Miller contacted the Bellefonte Area School District maintenance department to inquire about whether or not the well serving the Benner Elementary School was properly sealed upon connection to our Hampton/Opequon water system. Mrs. Gill reported that Benner Elementary School's well was not sealed using the methods recommended by the PA DEP and we will continue discussing this matter with the School officials until the well is properly sealed.

Andy Swales entered the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Hydrant Damage (Opequon) – On July 1, 2016 Ed Guenot contacted the SBWJA offices to report that he accidentally damaged a fire hydrant in the Opequon Development when he backed his vehicle into it. The damaged fire hydrant has since been replaced and Mr. Guenot will be invoiced for the costs associated with the repair which includes time and materials. The original fire hydrant was not properly installed as the entire base was encased in concrete preventing proper drainage and causing additional internal damage when struck by the vehicle.

Our Authority was contacted last week by an adjuster indicating Mr. Guenot has filed a claim with his automobile insurance carrier for the damages. Mrs. Gill indicated that once we receive the invoice from L/B Water Services for the hydrant, an invoice will be prepared and emailed to the adjuster for processing of the payment.

Bio-Solids:

Bellefonte Borough Authority DRAFT Cost Estimate to Landfill Bio-Solids –

The Board was provided with a DRAFT report obtained by a Water Authority customer during a recent Bellefonte Borough Authority meeting which outlined an estimated cost to landfill the bio-solids that was prepared by their engineer. The Draft Report estimates that it will cost the Bellefonte Borough Authority customers between \$.69- \$.97 per month to landfill the bio-solids. Mrs. Gill indicated Mr. Miller reviewed the draft report and stated he believes the estimated \$15,000 yearly cost for land application is underestimated.

Pennsylvania's House Bill 738 – Ms. Gryczuk spoke about House Bill 738 which was proposed by Representative Mike Hanna and approved on June 23, 2016. House Bill 738 requires the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to look at methods used to spread bio-solids. A report will be made within a year of the bill's passing to define the current costs, disposal methods, enforcement programs and appropriate alternatives to what is in place in Pennsylvania and other states. The bill will also prohibit the application of bio-solids in areas with source water protection plans.

Steering Committee – Mr. Eby indicated he attended the most recent Benner Township Supervisor's meeting which discussion was held regarding the application of bio-solids within the Township. The Supervisors agreed to develop a steering committee to oversee the bio-solids concerns within the Township. Mrs. Swancer was in attendance at the meeting to ask if any Water Authority Board members would be interested in serving on the Steering Committee. An invitation list is currently being developed which would include former Township Supervisors, Benner Township Planning Commission members, Water Authority members, Township residents and possibly current Township Supervisors. The Steering Committee will assist the Benner Township Supervisors with providing the community with the opportunity to discuss environmental issues within the surrounding area.

Benner Township New Building – The Board was provided with a rough sketch of a possible extension of water service to the Benner Township property as prepared by Mr. Miller. It would be easier and more cost effective for the Township to lay a 1" or 2" service line to serve their needs; however, the Board may want to consider an extension of our own that would ensure fire service in this area as well as the potential for future customer connections along SR550.

Mrs. Gill explained that if our Authority would complete a mainline extension we could utilize the benefits of Act 57 which allows for the Authority to assess a Special District Tap Fee to recoup the costs associated with the extension. The Act 57 Study would need prepared by an Engineer to validate the Special District Tap Fee if ever challenged by a customer.

Several Board members indicated they were in favor of the mainline extension; however, were concerned with the cost of the project. The Board indicated they would like Mr. Miller to provide an estimated cost of the project, inquire about the possibility of instituting a fire tax and begin negotiations with Benner Township to share in the costs of the extension. Mr. Lanich stated he would like to look further into other alignment options that may be more cost effective. Mrs. Gill suggested the Authority may want to consider contacting the neighboring property owners along SR 550 to determine if they would be interested in connecting to the water system.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Bio-Solids Appeal – During a recent email Mr. Hurst indicated he contacted the PA DEP attorney that is scheduling the mediation session, but has not received a response as of this meeting.

GUESTS:

Bio-Solids Steering Committee – Mrs. Swancer asked if any of the Water Authority Board members would be interested in participating in the Steering Committee. Mr. Edkin, Mr. Eby and Mr. Lanich indicated they would be interested in being involved with the committee.

Bellefonte Borough Authority Meeting – Ms. Gryczuk informed the Board that the Bellefonte Borough Authority intends to further discuss the Draft Cost Estimates for Landfilling Bio-solids at their next regular scheduled meeting in August and urged the Water Authority Board members to attend. Ms. Gryczuk was unsure of the date of the meeting but will contact Mrs. Gill once it has been advertised so she can email the Board members.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

OLD BUSINESS:

Source Water Protection Plan (SWP) –Mr. Swales indicated he forwarded his comments to Mark Stephens of the PA DEP this afternoon. The Board is hoping to have the SWP plan finalized by the September 2016 meeting.

Emergency Response Plan (ERP) – Mr. Miller revised the Emergency Response Plan as discussed during the last meeting and the Board was presented with the revised plan. Mr. Edkin indicated that Page 2-2 (Tier 1 Public Notification) was not completed to include contact information for the Hospitals, Day Care Facilities, Schools, etc. as previously mentioned. Mrs. Gill will discuss the changes with Mr. Miller and have the corrections ready for the next meeting.

Engineering Services Request for Proposal (RFP) – The Board discussed the proposals received from the following firms for Engineering Services:

Stiffler McGraw, Hollidaysburg, PA
Keller Engineers, Hollidaysburg, PA
Uni-Tec Consulting Engineers, State College, PA
Levine Engineers, Altoona, PA
Gwin Dobson & Foreman, Inc., Altoona, PA
The EADS Group, Altoona, PA

Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. Edkin to retain Stiffler McGraw as the Benner Township Water Authority's engineer based on the proposal dated June 16, 2016 and upon receipt of an approved contract. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Banking Proposals – The Authority received banking proposals from First National Bank, Fulton Bank, Jersey Shore State Bank and M&T Bank. The Board will review the proposals for discussion at a future meeting.

Letter to Benner Township Supervisors – During the last Benner Township Supervisors meeting it was noted that discussions were held regarding an ordinance to prohibit the application of bio-solids within Source Water Protection areas in Benner Township. **Mr. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. Eby to prepare and send a letter to the Benner Township Supervisors indicating the Benner Township Water Authority is in support of an ordinance to prohibit the application of bio-solids within all Source Water Protection areas in Benner Township. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

ACTION ITEMS:

- Board members to review Banking proposals
- Mrs. Gill to contact Stiffler McGraw
- Mr. Miller to prepare cost estimate for Benner Township connection & explore fire tax
- Mr. Miller to modify ERP

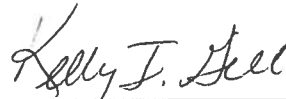
Next regular scheduled meeting is August 16th at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Lanich indicated he will be absent from the August meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Edkin moved, seconded by Mr. May to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township 09/21/2016