

BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

September 17, 2013

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Eby
Steve Lanich
Gary Shultz
Andrew Swales

OTHER ATTENDEES: Warren Miller – SBWJA
Kelly Gill – SBWJA
Jean Ryan – Hazen & Sawyer

CALL TO ORDER:

The September 17, 2013, Regular Meeting of the Benner Township Water Authority was called to order at 6:32 P.M. by Tom Eby, Chairman.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

The Minutes of the July 16, 2013 regular meeting were presented for review. **Mr. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. Shultz to approve the Minutes of the July 16, 2013 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. Mr. Eby asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the Paid Checks or Bills by Vendor submitted for approval. **Mr. Shultz moved, seconded by Mr. Swales to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, the Paid Checks in the amount of \$9,828.58 and Bills by Vendor in the amount of \$4,735.05. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

SBWJA REPORT:

Grove Park Stop & Waste Valves – Mr. Miller reported that he recently became aware that phases II and III of the Grove Park Subdivision have stop and waste valves installed. These curb stop valves are typically used on seasonal residences, town water fountains, etc. and there is a potential for failure of the valve and/or possible contamination of the service line and water system. Once the water is turned off, the port is opened which drains everything on the downstream side.

The Board inquired about how many properties this would affect and Mr. Miller estimated it to be around 40 properties. Mr. Miller is unsure why the developer would use the stop and waste valves when they are more expensive than a curb stop.

Mr. Miller will discuss the use of these valves with our Sanitarian to obtain her opinion.

Grove Park Hydrants – After the fire at 1401 Seibert Road in June 2013, Mr. Miller indicated he was told by the Township that the hydrant near the home didn't function properly; therefore, Mr. Miller contacted Tim Schreffler, Bellefonte Department Fire Chief, to inquire about the issue. Mr. Schreffler indicated the fire department was filling their tanks and only used approximately 50 gpm of flow. Mr. Miller informed Mr. Schreffler that the high service pump would've kicked on if they would have significant sustained flow.

Mr. Miller suggested the Board consider replacing the fire hydrants in Grove Park and Opequon Hill, as they fail, due to their low quality. Currently there is a hydrant in Grove Park that is leaking around the bottom and should be repaired soon. The Board inquired about an estimated cost per hydrant and Mr. Miller believes it will cost approximately \$3,000 per hydrant including SBWJA's installation price. The Board suggested phasing the hydrant costs into the budget over the next several years. **Mr. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. Lanich to authorize SBWJA to replace the faulty hydrant in Grove Park immediately at a cost not to exceed \$5,000. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

PA DOC Monies – Mr. Miller indicated that he is still in discussions with the PA Department of Corrections regarding releasing the monies in escrow which this Authority would likely be the recipient of. Those monies would be used to reimburse this Authority for its' out of pocket expenses pertaining to the Peru project.

Village of Peru – Mr. Eby asked if everything has been finalized for the Peru project. Mr. Miller indicated the issue with the one homeowner about his yard being bumpy is still pending. After the walk through in July 2013, Glenn Johnston was to review the preconstruction pictures/video in this area to determine how things looked prior to the job; however, Hazen and Sawyer mailed a letter within days indicating the job was satisfactory and does not require further restoration. Mr. Miller questioned why Scott Armbrust of Hazen and Sawyer issued this letter and is still waiting for resolution. Mr. Miller stated the homeowner may not require additional work.

Opequon Hill Easements – Mr. Miller informed the Board that the developer, Justin Harford, who purchased Opequon Hill recently contacted him regarding a water main he located while excavating for a foundation. Mr. Harford believes this Authority should be responsible for relocating the water line since it is not properly identified within the record drawings. This Authority's records pertaining to the easements within this development are poor; therefore, Mr. Miller searched for easements through the Centre County Recorder of Deeds. Mr. Miller located an easement for this area in question and has provided Mr. Harford with a copy of the easement. As a result, Mr. Harford is having the property surveyed and will contact us once the survey is completed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Campbell was absent from the meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Ms. Ryan had nothing to report.

GUESTS: There were no Guests present.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Analytical Testing– Mr. Eby referenced the correspondence issued to several homeowners with their lead and copper results and inquired about this process. Mr. Miller informed the Board that every three (3) years this Authority is required to test five homes per system for lead and copper. The five homes per system were selected initially and will remain the same every testing cycle.

Mr. Miller also indicated that the Authority was recently contacted by an independent lab, Benchmark Analytical, and provided with a quote to complete some analytical testing. The SOCs this Authority is required to complete every quarter this year which costs about \$1,000 per system can be completed by Benchmark for around \$700 per system. Mr. Miller indicated he would like to use Benchmark Analytical for the SOCs testing for the remaining two quarters of this year and to see how they do. The Board agreed with Mr. Miller, especially if it saves the Authority money.

SOC Waivers – Mr. Miller informed the Board that we received notification from the PA DEP today indicating the SOC waivers were denied due to not providing all of the requested information. The PA DEP was requiring labels from every homeowner indicating the chemicals used, which would not be cost effective for this Authority.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business presented for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

2014 Budget – Mrs. Gill and Mr. Miller will be scheduling a meeting with Mr. Lanich prior to the October meeting to discuss/prepare a preliminary 2014 budget which will be presented during the October meeting. The proposed budget will need approved during the November meeting with final approval in December.

ACTION ITEMS:

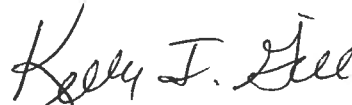
None

Next regular scheduled meeting is October 15th at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. Shultz to adjourn the meeting at 7:15p.m. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township 10/16/13