

BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

January 15, 2019

ATTENDANCE:

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

OTHER ATTENDEES: Warren Miller – SBWJA
Kelly Gill – SBWJA
Brian Shura, P.E. – Stiffler McGraw
See Attached Guest List

CALL TO ORDER:

The January 15, 2019, Regular Meeting of the Benner Township Water Authority was called to order at 6:37 P.M. by Tom Eby, Chairman.

ROLL CALL:

Tim Edkin, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording four members present. Mr. Swales entered the meeting at 6:40 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.

ELECTION OF 2019 OFFICERS:

Mr. Eby opened the nominations.

Mr. Lanich made a motion to retain the same officers from the previous year and Mr. Edkin seconded Mr. Lanich's motion. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.

Mr. Eby closed the nominations.

Attached to these meeting minutes is a listing of the 2019 Officers and Members.

APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

Retaining Professional Services for 2019 (Engineer) – Mr. Edkin stated the changes to the Engineering Services Agreement provided by Stiffler McGraw for the 2019 calendar year were acceptable to him. **Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. May to approve and execute the proposed contract with the Consulting Engineer – Stiffler McGraw – 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

Mr. Swales entered the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Retaining Professional Services for 2019 – Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. Lanich to retain Solicitor – Miller, Kistler & Campbell (Richard Campbell) 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Retaining Professional Services for 2019- Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. May to retain Auditor - Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP for the 2019 calendar year. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

The Minutes of the December 18, 2018 regular meeting were presented for review. **Mr. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. Edkin to approve the Minutes of the December 18, 2018 Regular Meeting as presented. 5 ayes, 0 nays. 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. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. Eby to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, the Paid Checks in the amount of \$14,680.29 and Bills by Vendor in the amount of \$9,255.45. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

Mr. Edkin referenced the Budget vs. Actual report for the 2018 calendar year where two expense categories-- Legal Fees (#79102) and Contracted Services/SBWJA (#79701) were over the budgeted amount and suggested footnotes be added to the year-end report explaining the reasoning for the larger overages. Mr. Edkin stated the Legal Fees were self-explanatory, but requested additional information for the Contracted Services/SBWJA being over budget by approximately \$31,000.

Mr. Miller stated the Contracted Services/SBWJA expense account reflects the four (4) water main breaks, the Opequon well pump failure, the Grove Park generator installation and the replumbing of the Hampton Hills well house in 2018, which were unforeseen costs.

SBWJA REPORT:

Bio-solids Legal Fees Expense – The legal fees expense associated with the bio-solids appeal incurred to date remain at \$104,612.48.

Fracture Trace Analysis – Mr. Miller indicated he made contact with Dr. Parizek after the holidays and Dr. Parizek stated he will be working on the fracture trace study soon.

New Source Development – Mr. Miller informed the Board that he has a meeting scheduled with Rick Henry of McCamley Hydrogeology on January 17, 2019 to complete a tour of the area and discuss the project.

Grove Park Nitrate Levels – Mr. Miller provided the Board with the results of the nitrate level in the Grove Park well on January 3, 2019, which was 6.39 mg/l. The updated results will be posted on the Authority's website. The Board discussed periodic testing of nitrates to aid in determining the seasonal impact on the nitrate levels of the well; however, Mr. Miller suggested waiting until the Spring when the well pumping schedule is modified to obtain more data on the impact of the changes.

Mr. Swales asked Mrs. Gill to provide him with the excel spreadsheet and chart of the Grove Park static well levels so he can complete a comparison of precipitation, static well level and the nitrate level.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

New Source Development – Mr. Shura stated the only update he had was discussed by Mr. Miller earlier in the meeting regarding Rick Henry's visit planned for later this week. Mr. Shura indicated that Rick Henry has completed the desktop review and has some ideas of potential sites.

GUESTS:

John Kostas – Mr. Kostas requested the Authority consider adding literature to the website regarding the over application of lawn fertilizer and the impacts on the drinking water. Mrs. Gill stated the Water Authority's website will be updated to reflect this request.

Mr. Kostas then updated the Authority Board on a case that is currently in front of the Environmental Hearing Board in East Penn Township in Tamaqua about the land application of biosolids. Mr. Kostas asked if the Water Authority was interested in contacting East Penn Township to discuss their case. Mr. Edkin asked for details of the case and Mr. Kostas stated he didn't have the details with him.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no correspondence presented for discussion.

OLD BUSINESS:

Benner Township Supervisors Meeting 01/14/2019 – Mr. Eby informed the Board that he attended a Benner Township Supervisor’s meeting on January 14, 2019 where discussion was being held about the Township’s new zoning ordinance. During the meeting, Mr. Eby indicated the Township Supervisor’s agreed to add language to the zoning ordinance so that any developments proposed with water service are to be built to the specifications of the Benner Township Water Authority. The Authority Board was very pleased that the Township Supervisors have acknowledged and agreed to the requests of this Authority Board pertaining to future water service, especially due to the water main breaks that could’ve been avoided if the facilities were built to this Authority’s specifications and were inspected at the time of installation.

Mr. Shura asked if the Benner Township Supervisors discussed a Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) and Mr. Eby stated no. Mr. Shura stated this concerns him because these regulations are typically enforced within the SALDO, not necessarily a zoning ordinance.

Reappointment of Tim Edkin – Mr. Swales inquired about the status of Mr. Edkin’s reappointment to the Water Authority Board due to his term expiring in December 2018. Mr. Eby stated that the Benner Township Supervisors tabled any decisions with Mr. Edkin’s reappointment. According to the PA Municipal Authorities Act board members shall hold office until their successors have been appointed even if the board member’s term has expired.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nittany Valley Environmental Coalition – Mr. Eby informed the Board that he has reached out to the Nittany Valley Environmental Coalition to express his personal opinions and also the facts surrounding the pending appeal to the Environmental Hearing Board.

ACTION ITEMS:

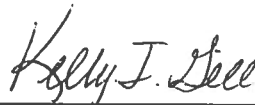
Mr. Edkin suggested the Authority provide a summary of the action items that occur at each Water Authority meeting to the Benner Township Supervisors to keep them apprised as to the activities occurring at our meetings. Mrs. Gill informed the Board that following each Water Authority meeting a copy of the meeting minutes are provided to the Benner Township Supervisors in which they are referenced on their agenda as being received. Mr. Edkin stated he understands they are being provided; however, he believes a simple bulleted summary would be more effective. The Board agreed with Mr. Edkin's suggestion.

Next regular scheduled meeting is February 19th at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Swales moved, seconded by Mr. May to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. 5 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township 02/20/19

BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY
1224 BUFFALO RUN ROAD
BELLEFONTE, PA 16823
(814) 355-4778

REGULAR MEETING
January 15, 2019

GUEST LIST

1. John Koster
2. Rence Swancer
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**Benner Township
Water Authority**

2019 OFFICERS & MEMBERS

Thomas Eby, Chairman
Andrew Swales, Vice Chairman
Steve Lanich, Treasurer
Timothy Edkin, Secretary
Jerry May, Asst. Secretary/Asst. Treasurer