

BENNER TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

August 20, 2019

ATTENDANCE:

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

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

CALL TO ORDER:

The August 20, 2019, Regular Meeting of the Benner Township Water Authority was called to order at 6:34 P.M. by Tom Eby, Chairman.

ROLL CALL:

Tim Edkin, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording four members present. Mr. Swales was absent. 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 18, 2019 regular meeting were presented for review. **Mr. Lanich moved, seconded by Mr. May to approve the Minutes of the June 18, 2019 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. Eby referenced the budget versus actual report, to date, and asked what the professional dues represented. Mrs. Gill stated those were annual service fees assessed by the Commonwealth (PA DEP). In the past the Authority was only assessed approximately \$165.00 per year for the two water systems; however, a new annual fee was added to bridge the funding gap at the PA DEP which amounted to an annual increase of \$1,000 for both systems. These fees were not included within the 2019 budget, but will be included in future budget years. **Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. May to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, the Paid Checks in the amount of \$9,111.10 and Bills by Vendor in the amount of \$4,172.32.** 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

SBWJA REPORT:

Bio-solids Legal Fees Expense – The legal fees expense associated with the bio-solids appeal incurred to date remain at \$117,228.58.

Generator – Mr. Miller informed the Board that the quote we received for the switch gear was \$900, which was much less than he initially estimated. We are currently applying for the building/zoning permits for construction of the building addition to house the generator at the Hampton Hills well house. Recently we were required to submit an Uninterrupted System Service Plan (USSP) to the PA DEP by the August 16, 2019 deadline. The USSP requires us to ensure uninterrupted service to our customers (during power outages). Since the Authority doesn't currently have a system in place we had to indicate we were deficient and will have six months to submit a corrective action plan. Once the generator is installed we will submit a new plan indicating the requirements have been met.

Hampton Hills Water Tank – Mr. Edkin asked if the water tank at Hampton Hills could be painted due to the existing condition. Mr. Miller indicated he believes this tank to be stainless steel which would not require painting. Mr. Shura stated that typically tanks are painted for preservation. Mr. Miller indicated we should consider having the inside of the tank inspected next year, which would involve a diver.

Grove Park Well House Leaks – The Grove Park well house had two internal plumbing leaks the last week of June, which is a result of the plastic piping used. Both were due to breaks at the joint in the Schedule 80 pipe, which can become brittle when in contact with chlorinated water.

Grove Park High Service Pumps - Last year the maintenance personnel determined the bladder within the 80 gallon expansion tank in the well house was broken. Mr. Miller believes it was due to the fire pump kicking on and off. The tank was removed because we thought an expansion tank without a functioning air bladder can't be very effective, but recently we realized it must have been absorbing some of the water hammer.

Mr. Miller explained the pump sequence and the plumbing within the well house. The lead pump starts, the lag pump starts and then the fire pump kicks on when a fire hydrant is being used. With the fire pump drawing 500 GPM through a 4" line, right past the intake of the two 20 GPM high service pumps, these two high service pumps are overspinning and then go into a fault. The high service pumps then stay in fault until the fire pump is shut down. Mr. Miller is looking into different options for re-plumbing this fire pump to aid in avoiding water hammer and draw on the high service pumps. Mr. Miller reminded the Board that these high service pumps are not typically used for this type of setting and will eventually need replaced with a package pump station estimated at around \$30,000.

Grove Park Nitrate Levels – Mr. Miller provided the Board with the results of the nitrate level in the Grove Park well on July 3, 2019, which was 3.53 mg/l. This is the lowest nitrate result on record. Mr. Miller stated the water table is starting to recede and we should begin to see how that impacts the nitrate results.

New Source Development – Mr. Eby recently had a meeting with representatives of the Pennsylvania State University (PSU) and the University Park Airport as part of the Nittany Valley Environmental Coalition that he's involved with. During the meeting Mr. Eby updated the representatives of PSU on the issues surrounding the Grove Park well and the Authority's search for a new water source. He had asked if PSU would consider allowing our Authority to develop a new water source at their property located near the University's test track along Seibert Road. The response was encouraging and continued discussions will be forthcoming. The wooded portion of the property being discussed is above the Gatesburg aquifer.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Mr. Shura had nothing further to report.

GUESTS: There were no Guests present for the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

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

NEW BUSINESS: There was no New Business presented for discussion.

ACTION ITEMS:

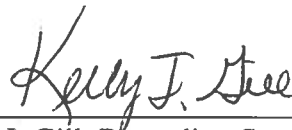
1. Mr. Eby to contact PSU to start an open dialogue regarding a potential well site for a new water source within the Gatesburg formation.
2. Key Points of BTWA 08/20/19 meeting to be submitted to Benner Township Supervisors.
 - a. The BTWA will be contacting PSU to discuss a potential site for a new water source.

Next regular scheduled meeting is September 17th at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Eby moved, seconded by Mr. May to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township 09/18/2019

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

**REGULAR MEETING
August 20, 2019**

GUEST LIST

1. None present
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