

Towanda Municipal Authority

Aug 15, 2016

The August meeting of the Towanda Municipal Authority was called to order by Mr. Walsh at 5:08 p.m.

PRESENT: Michael Walsh, Paul DeWitt, Ellen Lacek, Charlotte Sullivan

ABSENT: Joel Christian, Paul Sweitzer, William Shaw, Gerald Sheets

OTHERS: Kyle Lane, Manager; Jim Pruyne, Solicitor; Fred Johnson, Superintendent; Robert Williams, WTMA Chairman; Eric Cassanave, Stiffler & McGraw

Visitors:

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None

Minutes:

The June minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. DeWitt and seconded by Ms. Sullivan, approved.

Bills:

The June and July bills were approved on a motion made by Ms. Lacek and seconded by Ms. Sullivan, approved.

Engineer:

Mr. Cassanave updated the Board on the water project.

Next week we will open the bids for the electrical power to the Roberts well.

Mr. Cassanave asked Mr. Lane if Penelec has placed the poles; Mr. Lane stated that Penelec is not going to place the pole until the end of September taking into consideration where we are in the project.

Once the electric is in place we can start the pilot project.

Mr. DeWitt asked for the cost of the treatment plant; Mr. Cassanave stated the overall project is about 6 or 7 million; Mr. Lane stated the treatment plant is about 4 million of that cost.

Mr. Cassanave stated Mr. Casselbury is managing the applications for SRBC and DEP for the aquifer testing and pump testing plans.

Mr. Cassanave brought a map of where the proposed treatment plant will go so the Board can have an idea on the plans. Mr. Cassanave is proposing a 12" pipe which should be more than adequate; we would be at capacity if a third well was to be drilled but we are also under SRBC regulations on what we can produce. He is proposing the treatment plant be located on James Street well field.

Mr. Cassanave stated the anticipated expenditures will be as follows:

Robert Electrical Project \$160,000.00

Penelec Power Extension \$ 60,000.00

Membrane Plant Pilot Study \$ 30,000.00

A total cost of \$250,000.00; Mr. Lane stated he received the invoice from Penelec and the cost is \$29,800.00, much lower than we anticipated.

Mr. Cassanave again wanted to remind the Board that due to the SRBC regulations both the Church well and the Roberts wells will be presented at one time to them so that we are presenting our water needs and are presented with allocations on our entire system at one time.

Mr. Cassanave stated that Pall is who we are looking at for the membrane treatment plant, Ulster has their equipment. Mr. Cassanave stated there are other companies who are more than welcomed to bring their

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products to the testing phase but it would be at their own cost. Mr. Lane stated that having a similar plant down the road and Pall being already an established company with DEP it is the correct choice to go with them.

Water:

Mr. Lane stated we made our final bill in June for the Penn Vest Loan we had on the 1996 water improvement project. The dump truck is currently the only debt on the water side.

The Stevenson (Walsh/Granite) bridge replacement was complete; Mr. Lane and Mr. Johnson went down to witness the wet tap.

Mr. Lane informed the Board that DEP has issued a drought watch for Bradford County. The spring is low the wells are fine; we did shut down the bulk station to conserve water.

Lime Street:

Mr. Lane stated that a check was given to Mr. Pruyne today; Mr. Pruyne stated it is in the clerk and recorder's office. Once we receive the deed we can apply for our right of way permit from Penn Dot.

Satterlee Hollow:

Mr. Lane spoke with Mr. Roberts the road that we used in 1988 is no longer accessible due to the conservation district prohibiting our use. We are in contact with Mr. Fecik who owns the adjoining property and he is willing to allow using his land in order to remove and store logs.

Mr. Roberts is still unable to identify our property lines. Mr. Lane research that we did sell land in 1996 to Mr. Kingsley; the bottom half of the property is not well defined. Mr. Lane has contacted Mr. Yasharian in order to get a survey done, the approximate cost is 1,500.00. Ms. Lacek made a motion to have Mr. Yasharian perform a preliminary survey on our Satterlee Hollow property, Mr. DeWitt seconded, approved.

Mr. Roberts does want to wait until the ground is frozen before he starts harvesting. The ash trees will be the first to be harvested.

Sewer:

Mr. Lane stated that the Panda sewer is online; we are only receiving domestic waste water currently as they are pending DEP approval.

Bridge Street:

Mr. Lane stated that he and Mr. Johnson met with HRI they plan to begin the week of August 22nd.

Bulk Station:

Penn Dot informed us we need to relocate our bulk water station; since we do not own the land we will be required to pay 25% of the cost.

Delinquents:

Mr. Lane has decided to shift our collections to Mr. Chris Jones with Griffin, Dawsey, DePaolo and Jones; Mr. Jones currently does the delinquents for WTMA. Mr. Jones requested we first initiate his schedule of fees.

Resolution 2016-2 Schedule of Attorney fees in connection with the collection of delinquent water and sewage accounts. Motion was made by Ms. Lacek and seconded by Mr. DeWitt, approved.

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Yes – unanimous

No – no one

Absent – Mr. Christian, Mr. Sweitzer, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Sheets

Lead and Copper

Mr. Johnson stated that we completed our lead and copper testing; the only change in the DEP requirements is that we mail the results to the customers who volunteered in the testing.

Grant

Mr. Lane stated that there is a \$500,000.00 grant that is available that can only be used on small projects; so the water project is out. He is going to contact them to see if we can use the monies to pay our 25% of the Bridge Street project. Mr. Lane is also considering replacing the UV bulbs at the sewer plant or the Thomas Street project maybe replacing some of our water lines. The grant is due at the end of October so he is researching.

Audit

Mr. Lane has a copy of our 2015 audit if anyone wants to review it.

Adjournment

As there was nothing further to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Lacek at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
April Maynard
Recording Secretary