

Towanda Municipal Authority

Feb 22, 2016

The February meeting of the Towanda Municipal Authority was called to order by Mr. Walsh at 5:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Michael Walsh, Paul DeWitt, Paul Sweitzer, Gerald Sheets, Joel Christian, Ellen Lacek, Charlotte Sullivan, William Shaw

ABSENT:

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

Visitors:

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None

North Towanda Representative:

Mr. Walsh introduced Mr. Gerald Sheets as the North Towanda representative replacing Mr. Richard Schmiegl. A card was passed to all Board members to be signed and to thank Mr. Schmiegl for his service on the Board.

Minutes:

The January minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Ms. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Lacek, approved.

Ms. Sullivan asked for clarification on the bulk water sales on how TMA can get approved by DEP to sell bulk water. Mr. Lane states DEP does not approve of the water loss in our system; DEP wants to see our unaccounted water at 20% to 30% we are currently at 40%, they would like to see a detailed 15 year plan on how we plan on resolving our water loss along with a steady progression in resolving our unaccounted water. Mr. Lane stated that currently since we are not selling bulk water and with the other projects currently on hand this project and study is not feasible at this time, we are still doing leak detection and actively working on lowering our numbers.

Bills:

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

Engineer:

Mr. Cassanave updated the Board on the progression of the wells and well head protection on the Robert's property. Mr. Cassanave stated our next step is to run power not only for the wells themselves but for the testing that is required for the filtration system. We need a letter of no prejudice from Penn Vest that states we are performing work and following the bid guidelines set forth by Penn Vest if we wish to pursue them as a funding source for the water project. Mr. Cassanave has plans and drawings for the electrical control panels as well as schematics on what the controls will look like, Mr. Cassanave thinks a lot of the initial work can be done in house that would include the conduit and galvanized piping for the electric. Penn Vest wants a project out to bid 45 days prior to awarding a bid to a contractor that would take us to May. Mr. Sheets discussed the water level during flood stages and our placement of the electric control panel; Mr. Cassanave stated since no work has been started it is feasible to change the location now.

Mr. Sweitzer made a motion to authorize the Electrical Control Panel project out to bid, Mr. DeWitt seconded, approved.

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Mr. Cassanave was contacted by DEP and they stated we need to test both the cryptosporidium and well at 700 gallons a minute we will test 8 gallons of the 700 in the pilot filtration testing. Mr. Cassanave stated this is not what was discussed in December with DEP; he suggests using one well for all the testing. We will need to up the date for Penelec to install power to the site since we will not be using a residential pump; it will more cost effective to have power on site instead of bringing in a temporary power supply.

Water:

Penn Dot is replacing the bridge which affects our water main from New Albany; the water cannot be shut off; we will be using wet taps in order to not shut off the water we will have to be on hand to verify the contractor Penn Dot hires for the project does not turn off the water.

Sewer:

The pump for the A-TAD arrived today they will be working on installing it next week.

Mr. Walsh asked if Mr. Johnson has received a list of what critical items we may need to have on hand for the sewer. Mr. Johnson stated he has discussed this with Mr. Walker but has not received a list of items as of yet. Mr. Walsh suggests we keep on top of this issue and get a list.

Mr. Lane stated that we recently had an employee leave and the role of some of the sewer plant employees have changed; they are doing sewer runs in addition to running the plant.

Mr. Lane wants permission to replace the sewer line on Washington Street; Mr. Sweitzer asked for the cost; Mr. Lane stated he will have to get back to him with the cost; the work will be done in house.

Lime Street:

Mr. Lane stated that we have addressed a legal question to Mr. Pruyne; Mr. Pruyne is still looking into the issue of the original lines of the unopened Lime Street; Mr. Pruyne wants to know what the boundaries of Lime Street were and who gets ownership of that street and if the property owners still have right of way access to Lime Street. Mr. Pruyne asked for the property map of what we are acquiring from the Bart Schrader Estate; Mr. Cassanave stated the map is only of what the Bart Schrader Estate currently owns not taking into account the legal question of right of way of Lime Street; he will forward the map to Mr. Pruyne. Mr. Lane asked if we can have an answer by next month's meeting.

Truck:

Mr. Lane ordered the truck for the water crew we are still looking at 8 weeks for delivery.

Audit:

Mr. Lane stated the 2015 audit will start next week.

Delinquents:

The Board discussed the delinquent list and asked Mr. Pruyne what he is working on.

Adjournment

As there was nothing further to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sweitzer at 6:30 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted,
April Maynard
Recording Secretary