

# Towanda Municipal Authority

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Jun 20, 2016

The June meeting of the Towanda Municipal Authority was called to order by Mr. Walsh at 5:02 p.m.

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

**ABSENT:** Joel Christian

**OTHERS:** Kyle Lane, Manager; Jim Pruyne, Solicitor; Fred Johnson, Superintendent; Robert Williams, WTMA Chairman

## **Visitors:**

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None

## **Minutes:**

The May minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Sweitzer and seconded by Ms. Lacek, approved.

## **Bills:**

The May bills were approved on a motion made by Ms. Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Sweitzer, approved.

## **Water Truck:**

Mr. Lane stated that our new vehicle has arrived; Mr. Lane would like to pay for the vehicle out of our funds instead of financing the vehicle. Mr. Sweitzer made a motion to pay for the vehicle instead of financing, seconded by Ms. Lacek, approved.

## **Water:**

Mr. Lane said the testing is continuing at the Robert's wells. The generator is somewhat of an inconvenience as we need to assure they are fueled up to run the pumps for testing, they use a lot of fuel.

Penelec is awaiting approval of a railroad crossing for the power lines. We are looking at advertising the electric for the Roberts property next week.

Mr. Lane stated he is in disagreement with Mr. Cassanave as it goes for funding of the project; Mr. Lane does not think we need to be reimbursed for our costs up to the point we are permit ready; if we have the capitol to spend on the project we should spend it. In order to qualify for reimbursement from Penn Vest we need to assure we follow their guidelines on bidding out projects.

We made our last payment for our Penn Vest loan; the only debt we have on the water side is the red dump truck at this time.

Mr. Lane has been working with the Progress Authority and Northern Tier Regional Development to submit projects for grant monies, they like the water project and prioritized it; we are looking at receiving a \$100,000.00 grant for soft costs of the water project from ARC (Appalachian Regional Commission).

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Mr. DeWitt asked how we are going to pay for the Bridge Street Project; Mr. Lane said we budgeted \$130,000.00 in this year's budget for the project we will carry that into next year and budget the difference from what we thought the project would cost to be and what the bid came in at which is approximately \$200,000.00.

## **Lime Street:**

Mr. Lane will be attending the meeting tomorrow night to address the subdivision of the Bart Schrader Estate. We will be moving our current driveway 50 to 100 ft south from where it currently is situated in order to keep it within our property lines.

## **Sewer:**

Mr. Johnson stated we have an issue with grease management. He is looking at adopting rules and regulations to address grease management with all eateries in the Towanda Water and Sewer system. Mr. Johnson stated that he is not aware of who will enforce this program but it needs to be instituted and enforced. We can accept the waste at the sewer plant but we do not have the man power to collect the grease from these eateries. This will require an initial inspection and document from the eateries that they are complying with the rules and regulations.

## **Towanda Borough Code:**

Mr. Lane stated the Borough code contains ordinances for TMA most of the rules and regulations are not the updated rules and regulations. Mr. Lane is going to have Council rescind the water and sewer ordinances and enable TMA to own and operate the system and enact rules and regulations by resolution. Mr. Lane states he wants to attach TMA's resolutions to the Borough Code instead of having them part of the code itself, so if an update is done it is only attached and the Borough Code does not have to be rewritten. Mr. Johnson asked why the regulations need to be included in the Borough Code if they are going to enable TMA to own and operate the system. Mr. Lane stated that is would be accessible to Borough residents.

## **Bridge Street:**

Mr. Lane stated that HRI was awarded the bid for the Bridge Street reallocation project. Mr. Lane is in contact with HRI and will be informed of when they start this project.

## **Satterlee Hollow:**

Mr. Roberts stated he wants to immediately harvest the Ash and Black Birch; the Ash because of the beetle infestation we can harvest as many trees as possible before they are no longer viable because of the beetle. Mr. Roberts stated there are different options the municipality can do to harvest the trees on the land. Mr. Sweitzer made a motion to have Jim Roberts manage the project and pick the best option for the municipality to make monies off the trees on the Property, seconded by Mr. DeWitt, approved.

Mr. Lane stated the royalty monies we received from the Satterlee Hollow property will be used for the Thomas Street pressure reducer valve/vault and the Lime Street driveway.

## **Gateway Green:**

Mr. Lane stated he sent an email to Gateway Green outlining what we want to see in an agreement and he is waiting to hear from them; he did receive a confirmation email.

## **Panda:**

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Mr. Lane stated that Panda has asked for our original allocation of 10,000 to 60,000 gallons a day be revised to be 60,000 to 200,000 gallons. Mr. Lane wants to put conditions to drawing that much water. Mr. Johnson stated we have always had the ability to curtail their draws due to drought and leaks and those were placed in the original agreement. Mr. Johnson stated we can commit and ensure that they have a contingency plan to obtain water. Mr. Johnson stated that we signed agreements with water haulers for 300,000 so this is not an unreasonable amount or request. Mr. Sweitzer made a motion that we agree to allow Panda to draw up to 200,000 gallons a day with ability to curtail that amount when needed, Ms. Lacey seconded, approved.

## **Bulk Station:**

Ms. Sullivan stated Penn Dot is reconfiguring the roadway exit ramps by the 220 by pass and they were not aware we had a bulk station in that area we will have to relocate the bulk station. Since it is not in their right of way Penn Dot should be paying the whole amount for relocating the bulk station. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Lane will look at possible sites for the Bulk Station.

## **Mr. Schmeig:**

Mr. Lane, Mr. DeWitt and Mr. Johnson presented the clock that the Board purchased to Mr. Schmeig for his years of service.

## **Adjournment**

As there was nothing further to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sweitzer at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
April Maynard  
Recording Secretary