

Towanda Municipal Authority

January 21, 2019

The January meeting of the Towanda Municipal Authority was called to order by Mr. Walsh at 5:06 p.m.

PRESENT: Michael Walsh, Paul Sweitzer, Carmen Venezia, Abraham Brandt

ABSENT: Ellen Lacek, Paul DeWitt, Charlotte Sullivan, William Shaw, Robert Williams-WTMA Chairman

OTHERS: Kyle Lane, Manager; Chad Strickland, Superintendent; Dave Unkovic, McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC; Eric Cassanave, Stiffler McGraw; Brian Shura, Stiffler McGraw; Coy Goble, The Daily Review

Visitors: None

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Minutes:

The December 21, 2018 meeting minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Venezia and seconded by Mr. Brandt, approved.

Bills:

The December bills were approved on a motion made by Mr. Sweitzer and seconded by Mr. Venezia, approved.

Bond Council:

Mr. Lane introduced Dave Unkovic who has represented the Board on previous TMA projects; Mr. Unkovic presented a resolution for the short term financing from C & N Bank at 4.16% for 4 years; Mr. Lane does not anticipate a 4 year construction period but we must ensure proper financing. Mr. Unkovic explained the resolution terms and agreements to the Board; the resolution authorizes the Authority to accept the preliminary proposal as well as authorizing one of our Board members to approve the final proposal when the bank sends the final proposal without having the Board to meet again in order to sign the loan. We will probably close the on this loan in February. Mr. Sweitzer made a motion to agree to accept the loan agreement with C & N Bank; Resolution 1- 2019; seconded by Mr. Venezia, approved.

Water:

Mr. Lane stated that we should be awarded the Penn Vest approval January 30th; we have been made aware it should be loan and probably not grant due to our rates

2018 Flood:

Mr. Lane stated as the applicant agent he has applied for funding for the 4 bridge crossings we lost during the August flooding to FEMA; he has training Friday at the Fairfield Inn to learn to use the portal to submit information to FEMA. Mr. Sweitzer asked if he is taking someone else to learn the training for the website; Mr. Lane does not think he will need assistance.

Sewer:

Mr. Lane stated the chapter 94 report information has been submitted to Stiffler McGraw.

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Auditor:

Mr. Lane presented an engagement letter for HallockShannon PC, for our audit; he has already signed the agreement for the Borough and TMA.

Ulster Authority:

Mr. Lane has tried to set up a meeting with the Board and the Ulster Authority; Mr. Venezia has stated he is interested in being involved in negotiations but has not heard from other Board members.

SRBC:

Mr. Lane stated he has to already submit our water usage to SRBC; fortunately the project is not yet started so we will report zero. Mr. Lane also stated they mentioned our unaccounted for water loss.

Mr. Lane is contacting Mr. Casselbury to start the application for the spring; as it was left out as SRBC did not want to address it along with our new wells application.

DEP:

Mr. Lane stated that DEP has started charging \$6,500.00 a year.

Project Bid:

Mr. Shura explained to the Board that we should consider going out to bid for our project now; he is sure we will be awarded funding from Penn Vest and the sooner we take the project out to bid the sooner the project can begin. He anticipates taking the project to bid and having bid openings in our March meeting. Mr. Sweitzer made a motion to have Stiffler McGraw take the project out to bid; Mr. Brandt seconded, approved.

Mr. Shura advised the Board that they will be submitting the building permit for the project; it will not be issued until after the bid opening in March.

Vo Tech Easements:

Mr. Lane has been given the property owner names for the Vo Tech line replacement from Stiffler McGraw so he can start getting the necessary easements; there are 16 property owners.

Ethics Forms:

Mr. Walsh advised the Board that the Ethics Form is in the packet and needs submitted back to Ms. Maynard.

Adjournment

As there was nothing further to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sweitzer at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
April Maynard
Recording Secretary