

# Towanda Municipal Authority

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June 17, 2019

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

**PRESENT:** Michael Walsh, Paul Sweitzer, Ellen Lacek, Paul DeWitt, Charlotte Sullivan, Carmen Venezia, William Shaw, Abraham Brandt, Robert Williams-WTMA Chairman,

**ABSENT:**

**OTHERS:** Kyle Lane, Manager; Chad Strickland, Superintendent; Eric Cassanave, Stiffler McGraw; Coy Goble, the Daily Review

**Visitors:** None

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None

**Minutes:**

The May 20, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Sweitzer, approved.

**Bills:**

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

**Water Project:**

Mr. Cassanave updated the Board on the progress of the water project: The Penn Vest loan was closed on June 4<sup>th</sup>; monies are available to start the project. A pre-construction conference was held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> discussion was made on the project and payment schedules for the project, and we requested their construction schedules to see when they will get started.; on June 10<sup>th</sup> a notice to proceed was issued to the contractors dated June 16<sup>th</sup>; all contractors are on the clock, they are in the process or have submitted their shop drawings informing the Authority of what materials will be used in the construction to ensure they are using material specified in the bids. The contractors will begin setting up their job trailers marking out utilities and marking out their job sites within the next week or so.

Mr. DeWitt requested that the Board be taken on a tour of the project to get the scope of what is happening and what will occur; Mr. Lane stated a ground breaking will be planned and he will keep the Board informed of that date, he is waiting until brush is cleared so that the site will look more presentable.

Mr. Sweitzer asked if the upcoming Penn Dot project will affect the water project; Mr. Lane stated our sewer line runs parallel with Route 6 but the water line does not; it does cross Route 6; they are meeting with Penn Dot on the 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the project.

Mr. Sweitzer asked if we heard anything on the eminent domain case; Mr. Lane stated no as did Mr. Pruyne; the 30 day appeal date has passed.

Stiffler McGraw is finishing up the paperwork on the extension from Dairylea Road to the new County site; the county will pay for the extension we will then extend the line to the North Towanda tank.

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## **Spring:**

Mr. Lane spoke with Mr. Casselbury this afternoon on our application to the SRBC on the spring; Mr. Applebee from the SRBC did contact Mr. Lane on our proposed application; we will be setting a meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss the spring and the implications of the spring on our water system operation.

## **SRBC:**

Mr. Lane and Mr. Strickland met with the SRBC on June 13<sup>th</sup> to go over what inspections and reports need to be submitted and when.

Mr. Venezia asked about SRBC's interest in our water loss; Mr. Lane stated that they understand water loss in general and we are no exception as an Authority, but as long as we show our due diligence in finding and repairing leaks to decrease water loss they are understandable. Mr., Lane stated that Mr. Strickland and the water crew are identifying and repairing.

Mr. Lane stated there are fees associated with the SRBC which would be \$5,000.00 per source which we are looking at an annual fee of \$15,000.00.

## **2018 Flood:**

Mr. Lane stated that all paperwork has been submitted to FEMA on what was repaired and what still needs to be repaired. There are two projects New Albany to Laddsburg and the repaired water line breaks before Monroeton. It will similar to College Run project we will be given a set amount to repair the damage; Mr. Sweitzer asked who comes up with the amount; Mr. Lane stated Stiffler McGraw has provided documentation on the amount that would be needed to repair the damage, we will negotiate amounts as much as possible but FEMA has the final say in reimbursement. The numbers on the monies we have already expended have not been questioned.

Monies go from FEMA to PEMA then to us.

## **Pump Station 8:**

Mr. Lane stated that a vehicle accident took out pump station 8, the damage is approximately \$75,000.00 the driver of the vehicle only has \$15,000.00 property damage coverage. We have a temporary pump in place there is a 6 to 10 week wait for a replacement pump.

## **Sewer Plant:**

Mr. Lane stated we had to replace the sampler at the sewer plant at a cost of \$6,200.00; we could no longer repair it, it needed replaced.

## **Ulster Authority:**

Mr. Lane stated he received a call from Ulster Township stating that since the Authority has not come up with a decision they are stopping negotiations; they thanked the Authority for looking and the time spent in trying to assist Ulster Authority. Mr. Lane stated that if they need us they have our rate sheet.

## **Satterlee Hollow:**

Mr. Lane stated that he would like the Authority to approve the gas lease.

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The Board entered executive session at 5:33 p.m. remained in session until 5:35 p.m. in regards to legal matters in regards to Satterlee Hollow property.

Ms. Lacek made a motion to sign the gas lease agreement with Chief, Mr. Shaw seconded, Mr. Brandt and Mr. Sweitzer objected, approved.

## **Audit:**

Mr. Lane provided the Board copies of the 2018 audit; the Audit will be published in the paper as well.

## **Property:**

Mr. Lane stated a property came up on South Main St. that we could use to store vehicles and the Wysox generator to keep it out of the elements. Ms. Sullivan stated to stay within a \$25,000.00 range and if the bank is agreeable to purchase.

Mr. Walsh stated the trailer next to our James Street property will have to be hooked up to the Municipal water if we purchase the property we will not have to connect the property . Mr. Cassanave stated that after the treatment plant is up and running we would not have to worry about our residual chlorination rates for the said property.

## **Mr. Strickland:**

Mr. Sweitzer acknowledged Mr. Strickland for passing his water tests.

## **Adjournment**

As there was nothing further to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sweitzer at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*April Maynard*  
Recording Secretary