

# Towanda Municipal Authority

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August 17, 2020

The August meeting of the Towanda Municipal Authority was called to order by Mr. Walsh at 5:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Michael Walsh, William Shaw, Paul Sweitzer, Fred Johnson

The following via teleconference: Ellen Lacek, Charlotte Sullivan, Carmen Venezia, Paul DeWitt

**ABSENT:** Robert Williams-WTMA Chairman

**OTHERS:** Kyle Lane, Manager; Chad Strickland, Superintendent; James Pruyne, Solicitor; Brian Shura, Stiffler McGraw

**Visitors: None**

## **Minutes:**

The July 20, 2020 meeting minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Ms. Lacek and seconded by Mr. Shaw, approved.

## **Bills:**

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

## **Water Project:**

Mr. Lane updated the Board on the water project: The water project is nearing completion one to two more months.

The Scada integrator showed up today; the computer was programmed to monitor the new system and should be integrated into our existing Scada system. Once Cambria Systems gets done with the Scada work, Pall will be onsite to start turning on the membrane system that should be next week. They will be testing the clear well pumps tomorrow; they are filling the clear well with 4 feet of water to test the pumps to ensure they were properly installed and working correctly.

Mr. Lane stated there seems to be a lot of items that need to be done within the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Venezia asked when DEP will be up to inspect; Mr. Lane stated they are working that out, currently with the Covid situation DEP needed to get authorization from the Governor in order to come up and inspect; initially there was to be two inspections one about now at start up and then when the system was in full operation; they have been authorized one day to do the inspections. Mr. Shura stated that he needs to see when it would be best for them to come up and inspect, he is thinking that with the schedule of start up of the system it should be in two weeks from now. Mr. Shura stated they will have two inspectors one will look at the equipment and the other will look at the reporting. Once the inspections are done we might be given items to correct and once that is done we will be issued an operator license and will be able to start using the system. Mr. Lane asked if there will be testing required; Mr. Shura stated the contractors are responsible for the testing and submission to bring the system online.

Mr. Venezia inquired about training, Mr. Shura stated there will be training on operating the equipment and Chad and or Shane will have to work under an operator with a subclass for membranes; this is a 3 month training. Mr. Lane stated that Ulster Township uses an engineer who has the certification, we will be contacting him.

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Mr. Lane stated there still is no electricity to the Church well; Penelec requires we pay the bill, have conduit buried before they set the pole. We do have a generator to operate the well if need be.

Mr. Lane informed the Board that Mr. Cassanave stated we need to do a final walk through to release the final retainage payment for Continental for the Vo Tech Line, it is approximately \$9000.00; Mr. Shura thinks there also might be some punch list item for them as well as verifying we received the as-builts. There is also a punch list that needs completed from Pioneer for the pump station we also need their steel certificate. Mr. Shura stated all contractors need to provide the American Steel certification and equipment certificates.

Mr. Shura presented the following pay applications:

Contract 2 pay application 14 for \$158,054.68 Lobar – for the Boards information \$570,000.00 is left on this contract this does not include the access road which is an additional \$176,000.00  
Contract 3 & 8 pay application 9 for \$117,598.35 Electrical – for the Boards information \$205,000.00 left  
Contract 4 pay application 4 for \$3,915.00 HVAC – for the Boards information \$21,000.00 left  
Contract 7 pay application 6 for \$43,453.60 Pioneer- for the tank and pump station – for the Boards information \$39,000.00 left that is mainly punch list items

Mr. Shaw made a motion to approve the pay applications, Mr. Johnson seconded, approved.

Mr. Shura presented the Penn Vest requisition:

Penn Vest requisition #14 for \$96,825.68

Mr. Shaw made a motion for the Penn Vest requisition, Mr. Venezia seconded, approved.

Mr. Shura presented a change order: ESA amendment 2 for the access road and design for permitting, the additional costs for Stiffler McGraw is \$17,500.00; Ms. Lacek made a motion to approve the amendment, Mr. Sweitzer seconded, approved.

## **Holly Property:**

Mr. Lane stated that the property on the site has been given to the Bradford County Manor in lieu of payment; Mr. Lane is going to go to the Commissioners to see if we can obtain this property.

## **2018 Flood:**

Mr. Lane stated that Stiffler McGraw is still working on the design and putting the bid specs together to get the items out to bid.

Mr. Lane stated that we were also able to obtain funds from FEMA for Cash Creek which was also affected in 2018; we will be replacing 340 feet of sewer main with two new manholes from Third St. to Second St.

## **Sewer:**

Mr. Lane stated we received a bill for the blower it was \$17,072.53.

Mr. Walker and his crew replaced impellers and wear plates on pump station 10 and it is operating efficiently.

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## **SR 3020 Turn back:**

Mr. Lane stated the only utility work left on this project is the water main on Third St from Bridge to Pine; Mr. Lane request the Board approve payment for Sykora Brothers for \$103,638.62, these funds are coming out of capitol reserves; Mr. Sweitzer made a motion we approve payment to Sykora Brothers Mr. Shaw seconded, approved.

## **Small Water and Sewer Grant:**

Mr. Lane stated that he was informed about an hour ago we were approved; we will be awarded \$80,000.00 with a \$25,000.00 match to replace the Thomas St. PRV.

## **Budget:**

Mr. Lane reviewed the Budget with the Board.

We will have to pay \$5000.00 due to our workers comp audit; TMA's portion will be \$3500.00.

## **Chesapeake:**

We are still waiting on a date to file our claim for our unpaid bulk water sales in the amount of \$14,000.00.

## **Hemlock Hills:**

DEP is requiring a generator for this location.

## **Hillcrest Drive:**

We had a sewer backup issue with a customer; we will install a check valve to ensure our main does not create an issue at the location.

The Board discussed the Hillcrest issues with clay pipes and the main location; it will have to be fixed.

## **Capital improvement fee:**

We may want to look at a capital improvement fee to be put in our bills in order to fund our infrastructure replacement.

## **GIS Mapping:**

We had the system mapped but when we look at the program everything is skewed it shows mains in sidewalks not in the road; Mr. Shura stated it can be just a program problem and can be an easy fix.

## **Computer Server:**

Mr. Lane stated that we have to replace our server; the server was \$20,000.00 seven years ago.

## **Truck 3:**

Mr. Lane stated that truck 3 needs replaced about \$69,000.00.

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## Adjournment

As there was nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*April Maynard*  
Recording Secretary