

Towanda Municipal Authority

April 19, 2021

The April meeting of the Towanda Municipal Authority was called to order by Mr. Walsh at 5:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Michael Walsh, Fred Johnson, Carmen Venezia, William Shaw
The following via teleconference: Kayla Saxon, Charlotte Sullivan

ABSENT: Robert Williams-WTMA Chairman

OTHERS: Kyle Lane, Manager; Chad Strickland, Superintendent; James Pruyne, Solicitor; Eric Casanave, Stiffler McGraw

Visitors: None

Minutes:

The March 15, 2021 meeting minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Venezia, approved.

Bills:

The March bills were approved on a motion made by Mr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Johnson, approved.

Delinquents:

Ms. Sullivan stated that she had Ms. Maynard send her a list of delinquent billings; she reviewed the list and questioned if we are going to continue to leave the delinquents on the list or write them off. Mr. Lane stated that the delinquents would be written off at judicial sale; if the properties are sold or at Sheriff sale our lien is paid.

Mr. Paul Sweitzer:

Mr. Lane informed the board of the passing of Mr. Sweitzer.

Water Project:

Mr. Lane stated we are working on finalizing all the contracts; we have some change orders; we were looking at equipment purchasing but vendors are looking at 16 to 18 weeks delay for delivery and Mr. Lane does not want to keep the funding sources open for that additional time. The track loader we ordered is supposed to be out of production and on its way; Warner stated that the delivery has been the delay in the ordering process. We are still awaiting steel certifications to close out some of the contracts.

TMA well 1 has been taken out of production. TMA well 2 will be a monitoring well for GTP.

The EDA grant is pending final documentation to close out the grant and obtain the retainage that is being held.

Penn Vest has started to take out the loan payment on the full initial loan amount; Mr. Lane contacted Mr. Shura and he stated that when we close out the project, we can ask for a loan payment adjustment but any unused monies basically reduce the loan term.

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Mr. Casanave:

Mr. Casanave presented change order #7 to the electrical contract for \$13717.77 for electrical cords for the generator; Mr. Lane stated that since each pump station has different voltages, we need cables to conform to each location. Mr. Venezia made a motion to approve change order #7, Mr. Shaw seconded, approved.

Mr. Casanave presented the following Penn Vest requisition:

Penn Vest requisition #22 for \$100,483.98; the majority of these funds are for the track loader.

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

Monroeton Main Replacement Project:

Mr. Lane stated we have our first communication with Penn Vest on Monday April 26th at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Lane stated that Mr. Casanave had done the survey and design; Mr. Casanave stated that he and Mr. Strickland did a walkthrough of the project with Mr. Johnson's notations on upsizing water mains in certain areas of Monroeton.

Mr. Casanave stated we need to do a resolution to apply for Penn Vest funding for this project. Mr. Lane asked if we are committing to a loan, Mr. Casanave stated no; this is only to submit the application to Penn Vest by the May 5th deadline. Mr. Shaw made a motion to approve resolution 2021-1 Authorizing Mr. Walsh to sign for application to Penn Vest Program to replace water main in Monroeton with the understanding of fund reimbursement to Penn Vest, Mr. Venezia seconded; roll call vote Ms. Saxon Yes, Ms. Sullivan Yes, Mr. Venezia Yes, Mr. Shaw Yes, Mr. Johnson Yes, motion carried

Mr. Casanave also stated that after last month's meeting we placed an ad in the paper for categorical exclusion; since the water mains are just being replaced there is no need for an environmental study to be done, we have 30 days to await any objections then we can file with DEP for approval.

Mr. Johnson asked if the engineering is done; Mr. Casanave stated he is currently working on it and it will be complete prior to submission to Penn Vest; the project is approximately 1.6 million dollars with line replacement to the house.

2018 Flood:

Mr. Lane stated we had the bid opening on April 12th at 2:00 p.m. the following is the results:

Vacri Construction	\$493,000.00
Sikora Brothers	\$300,170.00
Bristol Excavating	\$379,260.00

This project will be paid for by FEMA; Sikora Brothers is the low bidder and Mr. Lane requests we approve them as the contractor on this project, Mr. Casanave looked over the bids for proper documentation. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve Sikora Brothers for the Paradise, Sawmill and Leesway Crossing Project, Mr. Shaw seconded, approved.

Mr. Lane stated we will get 3 leak detection man holes out of this project so that may be helpful in identifying leaks in that line.

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Mr. Lane also reminded the Board that we still have FEMA monies available to secure 9 other locations we identified from New Albany to Laddsburg.

Sewer:

Mr. Lane stated the Chapter 94 report for 2020 is complete and submitted to DEP, if anyone wants a copy, he will send it to them.

The new mixer arrived; the old mixer has started to vibrate so we will install the new one and look into having the old one rebuilt for a backup.

Thomas St. PRV:

Mr. Lane stated we looked at the vault and did exploratory digging to see what we have; we found several valves; the project is going to be complex.

2020 Audit:

Mr. Lane stated that a single Audit is required due to the amount of the EDA Grant; Shannon Hallock, our auditors are working on it and it should be complete, it is due to DCED by the end of May.

Mr. Unkovic:

Mr. Lane has been in contact with Mr. Unkovic in regards with Wysox Township Municipal Authority looking into refinancing their water debt.

Mr. Lane had him again look at our M & T Bank loan and RUS Route 220 sewer extension; again, the M & T loan if not feasible but they are looking into the RUS Loan.

Mr. Unkovic drafted an agreement on the M & T and Penn Vest loan and WTMA's portion of that debt; there is no official documentation on that debt.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to have Mr. Walsh sign the Reimbursement Agreement between TMA and WTMA in reference to the debt of 15.8% of the Penn Vest and M & T loans for the Waste Water Treatment Plant, Mr. Venezia seconded, approved.

Mr. Johnson stated that we should also have an official agreement on water and sewer with Wysox. Mr. Casanave stated he will look into the archives because he thinks that the water is documented as it would have been required by RUS.

Executive Session:

Mr. Lane called for an executive session at 6:09 p.m. to discuss legal matters and remained in session until 6:20 p.m.

Board Members:

Mr. Walsh stated we need to look into getting Board Members.

Adjournment

As there was nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted,
April Maynard
Recording Secretary