

# Towanda Municipal Authority

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May 17, 2021

The May meeting of the Towanda Municipal Authority was called to order by Mr. Walsh at 5:03 p.m.

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

**ABSENT:** Fred Johnson, Robert Williams-WTMA Chairman

**OTHERS:** Kyle Lane, Manager; Chad Strickland, Superintendent; Eric Casanave, Stiffler McGraw

**Visitors:** Mark Christini, Michael Angerson

## **Board Members:**

Mr. Lane introduced Mr. Christini and Mr. Angerson; they agreed to be on the Board; they will be appointed as new members in the June Council Meeting.

## **Union Negotiations:**

Mr. Lane informed the Board that Mr. Johnson has agreed to be on the Union negotiation committee to replace Mr. Sweitzer; negotiations will start in June.

## **Board Officers:**

Mr. Walsh stated we have officer vacancies we need to elect a Vice Chairman, and he has requested Ms. Sullivan to take the position of Secretary/Treasurer so we need an assistant Secretary/Treasurer; the Secretary/Treasurer reviews the bills prior to the monthly meeting so we do not have to sit and review each billing.

## **Minutes:**

The April 19, 2021 meeting minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Venezia, approved.

## **Bills:**

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

## **Meters:**

Mr. Lane stated that we are currently unable to purchase meters due to unavailability. We have only a dozen or so meters in stock. We were working on meter replacements so this is putting a damper on our progress.

## **Water Project:**

Mr. Lane stated TMA well 1 is capped the building has been torn down, well 2 is being converted to a monitoring well by GTP.

Drainage and grating are almost complete at the treatment plant.

The track loader has arrived and is in use.

Mr. Lane thinks next month we should be able to close the project out; the mechanical contract is ready to close; the electrical contract is awaiting cellular antennas to be delivered; the plumbing contract is awaiting

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steel certs; the general contract is waiting for a 4" valve to be installed that was missed for the neutralization tank.

Mr. Lane provided a spreadsheet of the project provided by Mr. Shura that outlines the project costs, change orders, payouts and what has been reimbursed by EDA; the final payment for the EDA grant is not reimbursed until we close the contract, once that is received, we can close the line of credit we have with C & N. Mr. Lane stated we are below budget.

We will have another change order to order a spare PC that runs the PALL system.

Mr. Lane stated that he thinks that the pump at Roberts well #1 has burned out, that happened this weekend, the installer is coming to look at the pump this is the second one to burn out and it is concerning; pumps should last at least 10 years; we have a VFD installed so we have history to review what is going on with the pumps.

## **Mr. Casanave:**

Mr. Casanave presented application #6 the final pay application for contract #4 Master Mechanical for \$18,425.00, everything looks in order to accept this application for payment. Mr. Shaw made a motion to pay application 6 the final pay application for Master Mechanical, Mr. Venezia seconded, approved.

Mr. Casanave presented change order number 8 for contract 2 (Lobar) for \$19008.93, this is for the purchase of the additional PC for the PALL system. Mr. Venezia made a motion to approve change order #8 for Lobar, Mr. Shaw seconded, approved.

Ms. Saxon asked how assistance is provided on the current PC, Mr. Lane stated that usually PALL remotes in and either Mr. Strickland, Mr. Tabor or himself are walked through getting it operational. Mr. Strickland stated that afterwards we will be purchasing a service agreement with PALL. Mr. Casanave stated our warranty expires in January but we will be conducting an 11 month walk through to ensure everything is operational. Mr. Lane stated that PALL is located in Ithaca and they have technicians located everywhere.

## **Monroeton Main Replacement Project:**

Mr. Lane stated we have submitted our application on time to Penn Vest; Mr. Lane received a call from Northern Tier Planning and Development that they received a copy to review, he has never heard of that before. The total cost is \$2,234,500.00. Mr. Lane feels confident that the phone conversation went well and we may receive a favorable outcome for our project, we will know on July 21<sup>st</sup> on the funding of this project.

## **2018 Flood:**

Mr. Lane stated that Sikora Brothers has submitted all initial paperwork, bond and insurance. Mr. Casanave stated that he has the contract to be signed. We have a pre-construction meeting that Penn Dot wants to be a part of. Mr. Casanave thinks they should be ready to start in early June.

## **Sewer:**

Mr. Lane stated the mixer we purchased is already in use. Mr. Lane stated the old one is at Horton's to see if they can refurbish it so we can have that as a backup.

In day tank prior to the ATAD the solids and foam are accumulating at the top of the tank, over the years they have had several different things to fix the issue of getting more solids to feed to the ATAD and stop this issue of accumulation. Mr. Walker has reached out to get a quote from C3ND Environmental Consulting to install 3 air mixers to fix the issue and have the ATAD work more efficiently, the quote came in at \$18,985.00; we have the monies sitting in the Sewer Capital Reserve Account. Ms. Sullivan made a motion to pursue this solution to fix our issue, Ms. Saxon seconded, approved. Mr. Lane stated that if this works, he will attempt to get Wysox to

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purchase one to fix the issue with the Bradford Towne Center pump station; the problem there is basically grease accumulation.

## **Thomas St. PRV:**

Mr. Lane stated we are still awaiting Stiffler McGraw to get the project underway.

## **USDA Refinancing:**

Mr. Lane stated he is looking at getting our debt refinanced due to the current low interest rates. This is for the Route 220 sewer line. Mr. Angerson stated he will provide Mr. Lane with contact information for Mr. Crammer who handles bond issues.

## **Infrastructure Projects:**

Mr. Lane stated that Mr. Miller, Mr. Strickland and maybe Mr. Swingle are looking at identifying water and sewer replacement lines in anticipation of the Federal Infrastructure bill.

## **Delinquents:**

Mr. Lane explained our delinquent procedures.

## **Adjournment**

As there was nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*April Maynard*  
Recording Secretary