

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH AUTHORITY MEETING
January 4, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Authority was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Authority Chair Joe Beigle in the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance:

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Beigle, Halderman, Thal, Clark, Walker, Badger, Brown

Members Excused:

Staff Present: Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager
Bob Decker, Nittany Engineering
Eric Lundy, Nittany Engineering
Bob Cook, WWTP
Matt Auman, Public Works

Guests:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Mr. Halderman made a motion to approve the minutes of December 13, 2016. Mr. Clark seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

ORAL

- None.

WRITTEN

- None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – No report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Water Report - by Eric Lundy

Corning Pump House - Pump Upgrades – Martz is scheduled with start-up with pump #2 between January 9th and 13th. Matt got an email today that said it will be pushed back a couple weeks. Strouse Electric submitted a draft pay application. Comments were sent back to them and they are working on addressing the comments.

Big Spring Cover Replacement – They were on site November 16th. The drain line wasn't draining. There was a weight tube lodged in that. They placed additional weights to keep it flat so it will drain better. The drain lengths were adjusted again. The sub-contractor, J. H. Waters, will continue to monitor the cover drain through the winter and make final adjustments as needed.

The ADT post where the security sensors were realigned by ADT. That cost was removed from their pay request. The power supply application is completed. The cost for the service is \$425.00. Matt & Craig were working on cost to get the power service that is needed for the circulation pump for the cover. Once those are received they will be passed on to J. H. Waters.

Mr. Stewart advised that an estimate should be gotten from a contractor such as Strouse Electric or some other neutral party. Mr. Stewart said the Authority needs to see how effective the sprayer is and how well it works in the spring. There is no sprayer during the winter. Mr. Halderman feels it needs to be kept clean somehow. It's not an easy job to keep it clean and it takes a couple days to clean it effectively.

Dunkin' Donuts Water Service Review – Eric received a few emails regarding a new development. Tony (?) from Penn Terra was asking about some specifications on a meter and meter pit on a Dunkin' Donuts that is supposed to go in. Eric is waiting for answers on some additional questions that he had. Matt talked to them and they will need a pit. It is proposed to be across the road from the Benner Pike Sheetz. Eric asked them to provide him and Matt with a site plan.

Commercial tap fees are determined by the average use per day times a dollar amount. It is based on a study done by Nittany Engineering. If the Authority expends any money doing the tap into the main and bringing it over to the curb it is all reimbursed. The tap fee for a normal household is \$607.20.

Grant Application – Ralph and Don received correspondence from DCED. They requested additional information. Eric came across some information on the grant program that he passed along. They received over 600 grant applications totaling \$170 million in requests. The grant program has \$22 million available. There should be a decision by March 23rd.

Matt – Water

December 7 – repair service line leak at 102 Benner Circle.

December 16 – 8" water main break on Axemann Road

December 20 – leak found at 113 Lee Street in Coleville – there was a temporary shut-off at the meter. There was no shut-off at the curb. The following week a shut-off was installed at the curb.

Last Saturday the Corning Line sprung another leak close to where it has in the past. It was at the edge of another patch. Matt measured it out and it is around 750'. The materials could add up to approximately \$70,000.00, which would only take it to the first valve. It is all acidic. This is a job that should be planned on now. It is all in the Borough. NEA will put together a scope of what their costs would be for the project.

When they have spare time they are hitting the sewer lines as much as possible.

Bob Cook – Sewer Plant

December Bulk Water Sales - 106,000 gallons

December 7th – technician from Ingersoll Rand was in and replaced the air dryer on the BNR air compressor

December 28th – he spoke with a rep from Komline Sanderson. They are scheduling a technician to stop in at the plant on Friday, January 6th, to look at the Gravity Belt Thickener, to provide a quote to rebuild it. It is 26 years old.

The new press is working good.

Sewer Report - by Bob Decker

Bob reported they started the permit work and will get it in to DEP in the next several months.

There was a DEP pre-application meeting on December 15th at the WWTP that went well.

Today they got a verbal in writing that Evoqua is going to hold the price on the equipment that was received two years ago.

The AECOM additional wastewater characteristics and modeling that will be done through the design period.

They are helping Bob with the pre-treatment program. DEP has changed the Chapter 94 process and forms. They want it electronically now.

Matt reported that Dave Klinefelter has taken the Assistant Superintendent Job.

OLD BUSINESS

- LB Water and Sensus, by the February meeting, will come in and explain the change in their meter reading equipment and what it means to the Authority.

- Mr. Stewart is going to schedule a Children's Dental Health Task Force meeting for the local group to see which direction to go. That will be in the next couple weeks.

- A power point presentation was done for Council at their meeting last evening. One thing mentioned was the sale of the nutrient credits that were available. They also reviewed

water and wastewater projects that were accomplished by the Authority. Mr. Stewart said a lot of projects were done and he gives credit to the Authority for staying on task and keeping things moving.

- Pete Peters, a member of the Water Crew and Public Works Department, retired. In anticipation of his retirement his position was posted inside. Interviews were held for that position last evening and the person chosen is the current mechanic. He is also a back-up operator and already has all the certifications for the water systems that the Borough has and he has already been checking the pumps as part of the rotation. He will move over officially into the Water Department when a mechanic is lined up to come in. It will probably take several weeks to do that.

Dave moving up will also create a position. There will also be a new crew leader. There is someone that is interested in that position.

- This past weekend the crew borrowed equipment from the State College Water Authority. A thank you letter will be sent to them. It is a piece of equipment that the crew plans to purchase for the Borough.

- Mr. Stewart has not heard much about Johnson Controls. He plans to have them come in to a meeting or else get an update from them.

- Mr. Beigle asked about an incident that happened at the pump house a few years ago. Mr. Stewart said it is hot and cold. There is a federal investigator doing a lot of work on it. Six or eight weeks ago there was a load of information. They asked for the old computer, which the Borough provided. The investigator has to justify the resources to higher levels.

- Mr. Rehab was scheduled to do the inspection on the sewer line going through the park from the pump house in December and will come tomorrow. They will do an inspection and provide a cost for the minor repairs on the line. They will camera the whole thing.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Vana Dainty will be invited to an Authority meeting to talk about the incubator program and where it will be located. The entity is a non-profit group trying to create some entrepreneurial space or start-up space in the Borough. They would like to see if the Authority is willing to provide in-kind services, primarily water and sewer relief on the rates. Bellefonte Borough has agreed to do that with the garbage rate and parking permits. It is a community effort to get this off the ground. The term would be a year and then it would be re-evaluated. If the program didn't succeed the relief would stop when the program stopped. Mr. Beigle feels it would be the right move for the Authority to help out. Mr. Clark said the people at the old Cerro plant, the Titan Energy Park, are interested in being the location of the Graduate program if you make it out of the entrepreneur center.

Mr. Halderman made a motion to provide relief on the water and sewer bills with the same stipulations that the Borough gave, that it is for one year and if the project ends early this would end early. Mr. Thal seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. Mr. Clark excused himself from voting.

- Mr. Beigle will be in Florida for several months and will miss the next three meetings. Mr. Halderman will chair the meetings.

Consider ongoing projects, new goals and objectives for 2017 –
Ongoing Projects:

- Special study for the WWTP upgrade
- Scales at the WWTP
- Corning Pump house finishing
- Big Spring Cover Project nearly complete
- Grant project

Mr. Stewart would like to know if there is a direction the Authority would like to go.

Mr. Halderman asked if there was any grant money available for the Corning tank. Mr. Stewart hasn't seen anything. There is loan money from Penn Vest. The customer is paying \$5 extra right now, but the Authority is looking at ways to match that money with grant money.

The Federal Government budgeted a lot of money for water infrastructure because of the lead issues. It is hoped that it will trickle down to the state level to be used on those types of projects.

Mr. Halderman had information regarding a Facility Operations Workshop at Penn State on Tuesday, March 14th. The cost is \$15.

Matt would like to come up with a meter replacement program, which there was money budgeted for. There are some internal things that need worked on, such as hydrant flushing programs. The Borough has 300 hydrants. At this point there are probably 80-100 hydrants that have been replaced. Mr. Stewart would like to focus on completing the GIS mapping program this year. With that program you can identify all your assets, whether it is hydrants, valve boxes, sewer system collection manholes, storm drains, etc. The County can help with this and that is the least expensive way to go in getting this done. The Borough will have to buy a few GIS units and software to go along with it. With that information you can do better planning.

Mr. Stewart said an internal focus is the work order system. He wants to get something that everybody has access and you can keep track of where the work orders are.

Two pressure reducing valves were installed – one on Howard Street and one on Bishop Street.

ADJOURNMENT

- Mr. Clark made a motion to adjourn the January 4, 2017 meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Authority at 7:07 p.m. Mr. Badger seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Following adjournment the Authority went into Executive Session to discuss some legal issues.

The Authority Meeting was Re-adjourned to take care of the annual election of officers. Mr. Halerman made a motion to retain the current slate of officers. Mr. Thal seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned.