

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH
AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
October 3, 2017, 2017 6:00 p. m.
236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, PA 16823
www.bellefonte.net**

A quorum was not present to take any official action. The minutes reflect discussion that took place.

CALL TO ORDER: No Action

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT: NO QUORUM

PRESENT: Mr. Frank (Buddy) Halderman
Mr. Greg Thal
Mr. Joe Falcone

ABSENT: Brown, Badger, Walker, Beigle

STAFF: Mr. Ralph Stewart
Ms. Lori Walker
Mr. Matt Auman
Mr. Bob Cook
Bob Decker, Engineer
Eric Lundy, Engineer

CITIZENS: None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

No action was taken on the September 6, 2017, minutes due to lack of quorum.

ORAL:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS - WRITTEN:

Letter from SBWJA re: WWTP Upgrade, Project Status and Schedule Update

Letter to PA DEP re: opposition to proposed fee increases/amendment to Chapter 109 re: safe drinking water

Mr. Stewart thanked the Authority for their assistance with this letter.

Email re: Public Hearing on H.B. 798

This bill tries to have Authorities under the jurisdiction of the PUC. Bellefonte's water system was under the PUC for the line outside of the Borough going to Corning. That is what made this Authority become active instead of inactive. Rate increases could only be obtained by going in front of the PUC board. Rate increases are expensive and time consuming. This would have to be passed on to the customers. Mr. Stewart indicated that since there is no quorum this evening that a letter is written opposing any action of the like.

Century Engineering

They are coming into the Borough to meet with staff, Council and members of the Authority at 1 p.m.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Mr. Walker reported on the water fund budget. The loan was paid off and there was \$55,000 left which was placed in the capital project fund. It can be reallocated if need be. That removes debt. \$165,000 can be put into capital projects for next year. The water fund will have over \$400,000 next year if all goes as planned.

Surcharge was added. This is about \$22,000. This is the second year for this surcharge. It may be increased at some point over the next two years to get the tank repaired.

Mr. Stewart was at the National Rural Water Conference. He spoke with a firm that specializes in water tank evaluations. There is a Pennsylvania representative that he may contact regarding options and pricing on having an evaluation completed.

There has also been issues with the lower part of the Corning line. This is on the back burner to do something with this as well. This may need a new parallel line and a connection made. This is at Valentine Hill and Willowbank. There have been about 6 leaks over the past 3 or 4 years and it rots from the outside in. It is full of ash and other sediments.

Mr. Auman spoke about the trailer used to install sleeves in water lines. There is some money to try to get some more sleeves done on High Street. Mr. Stewart indicated that this project would need to be planned carefully and preferably over the winter months and get ready to start when the weather gets good.

PROJECT REPORTS:

Waiting on a permit for the Wastewater treatment plant project work. Planning on bidding out in October or early November. Bid opening before Christmas. Permits are supposedly coming in a week or so.

Scale replacement has been bid and awarded

Gravity Belt thickener work was bid and they are at the table (two bids).

Rate analysis was at the table. Rate increases were discussed. \$120 per EDU (beginning this January) and then \$5 a year to 2020. Stabilize at \$130 per EDU. Tapping fees were discussed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – WATER:

Big Spring Cover. A meeting was held with Sen. Corman's staff and a PA DEP representative to discuss options for an attractive cover that meets all Safe Drinking Water regulations. Covers/roofing was discussed. It should be a hard-shell covering the spring. Research needs to be done further on this.

Mr. Aumen reported on the following:

September 7 repaired a water main leak at Howard and Decatur; September 11 repaired a four inch water leak at 136 E. Curtin Street; September 12 replaced a $\frac{3}{4}$ service lateral at 112 Upper Coleville Road; another job was done at this property. It was too expensive for him to do privately so the Borough helped out and the property owner will be billed; September 14 – September 20 new lateral was installed for Ed Ranio on Scott Lane. During this same time the Gas Company hit multiple water lines that needed to be repaired. Parts will be billed; September 21 repaired a 1 inch leak on Burgundy Lane; September 25 repaired another 1 inch leak at Corning pump house; September 26 cleaned out the Raceway; September 27 repaired another 4 inch water main break at 645W. Water Street; replaced a lateral on Coleville Road.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – SEWER:

Mr. Cook reported on the following:

Bulk water sales were about 149,500 gallons.

September 1 Detech Services inspected the Allen Tank. No Issues. September 20 two utility poles were knocked down at the plant by a tractor trailer. The road was closed for about 3.5 hours. Capperella Furniture and the Car Dealership was the location. Nittany provided a quote for \$1,850 to locate and place two pins at the above property line. One the line is located two concrete barriers will be placed near the pole to prevent this from happening a third time. September 21 Gravity Belt pre bid meeting. September 22 DEP conducted a bio solids inspection and also provided a tour for the new water quality inspector. September 25 Plant operator involved in an accident. Unknown when he will return to work September 26 a chain broke in a clarifier. Maintenance cleaned the tank and repaired the chain and the wear shoes were also replaced. It was back on line by September 29.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Stewart reported on meeting with LB Water regarding the new MXU meters. They are giving a package. The Borough will pay \$15,000 is the cost for the new upgraded reader and package. The package includes 25 new meters, 25 MXUs, hand held and software upgrade.

Mr. Aumen reported on the issue of fees and rates for hydrants outside of the Borough as well as the fire lines attached. This will be compiled and when finished it will be presented. There are over 35 fire hydrants identified so far. A lot needs done to bring them into compliance. He will present this at the next Authority meeting.

Big Spring Cover - Corman Meeting (previously discussed)

Exhibit “C” – Sewer System Revenue and Expense Projections

NEW BUSINESS:

Bid opening for Gravity Belt Thickener Overhaul and Upgrade

Mr. Stewart opened the bids. Results are as follows:

1. GM McCrossin - base \$56,069.00
2. Greenland Construction – base \$94,741.00.

The two bids will be reviewed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Legal issues

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting ended at 6:55 PM.