

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH
AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
June 4, 2019 – 6 p.m.
236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, PA 16823
www.bellefonte.net**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the June 4, 2019, 2019, Bellefonte Borough Authority was called to order at the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building at 6 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT:

PRESENT: Mr. Joe Beigle
Mr. Frank (Buddy) Halderman
Mr. Joe Falcone
Mr. Brian Walker
Mr. Doug Johnson

STAFF: Mr. Ralph Stewart
Matt Auman

ENGINEERS: Mr. Eric Lundy
Mr. Bob Decker
Mr. Chuck Thompson

AUDIENCE: Jon Eaton, Council Member

MINUTES:

**Mr. Halderman moved to approve the May 7, 2019 Authority meeting minutes;
Mr. Walker seconded the motion;
Motion carried.**

ORAL: None.

COMMUNICATION WRITTEN: None.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Water/Sewer Fund Report

Mr. Falcone reported on the water funds with \$681,000 in revenue which represents 45% year to date total. There are no expenses out of line.

The sewer fund is about 42% to date at about \$3 million in revenue.

Checking balances at \$244,231.000 and \$3 million in the money market. No red flags. Good year so far.

ENGINEER REPORT – WATER:

Mr. Lundy reported that he met with Mr. Auman last week regarding the bulk water loading station at the treatment plant. Needs were assessed and it should not be a problem putting it together. It does need to be signed and notarized by the Authority. If it needs to be approved, it should be conditionally approved at this meeting.

Mr. Johnson moved to conditionally approve the signing of the application.

Mr. Falcone seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

ENGINEER REPORT – SEWER:

The wastewater treatment plant work is complete. The magnetite will be added next week to have it fully operational. The current pay request has money from the general contract and is pretty much from the startup phase. Everything is looking good. A tour of the plant will be delayed until the magnetite is added.

Work change directives are being wrapped up. The final change orders will be coming by next month. A delay claim came in for \$400,000 and then a few days later a revised claim came in at \$460,000. Mr. Decker responded to the letter. The bottom line is that McCrossin bid it, just like others bid it. Questions were clarified throughout the 45 days of the bidding. A lot of the claims are unjustifiable. With all the change directives Mr. Leahy was working under things that the Authority approved, and it appears that McCrossin is trying to count all the time as extra. A detailed letter will be sent back stating the Borough's position.

It was added that the workmanship is good and everyone did their part, but ever since the project manager left, there have been issues with the change directives, etc.

Retainage left on McCrossin is \$78,000 and change and retainage on Lepley is \$46,000 and change.

Mr. Halderman moved to approve Lepley's No. 11 pay app in the amount of \$170,664.64

Mr. Falcone seconded the motion.

Motion carried. Mr. Walker Abstained.

Mr. Johnson moved to approve pay app No. 14 from McCrossin In the amount of \$167,537.20.

Mr. Falcone seconded the motion.

Motion carried. Mr. Walker abstained.

The NPDES permit was received back and some of the items were challenged on the permit.

Water Report

Mr. Auman reported the following projects:

May 7-9 the sewer main repair was completed on E. Howard Street. There was also a water main repair done when they open cut to repair the E. Howard leak. A six-inch main was leaking for a while. The pipes are good but since they are laid on rock, due to the freeze and thaw, they tend to fracture. May 7 a new sewer tap was installed for Jack Shuster on Locust Lane. May 8-9, they worked on the 5th Avenue waterline project. May 13, at Corning, Pump No. 2 had an overcurrent fault. EMS looked at the issue. The motor was pulled but was fine. Larks diagnosed a fault with the EFD. Last week the EFD was taken for repair to Allentown. He said that it is about \$36.00 in parts. It will hopefully be back again next week. He is also replacing the fan motor for the drive. May 14-15 5th Avenue waterline was finished. May 16 they camera-ed some sewers on Monroe and Burrows. There are a few repairs that need to be done on some laterals. One of them was a customer on Monroe Street. May 17 leak detection was performed. May 21, they installed and new lateral and tap at Reynolds Avenue. May 22 a leak on a 2-inch main brake was repaired on Shoemaker. May 23 more leak detention was done. May 24 the EFD transport was done. May 29 new water tap was installed at Lower Coleville Road.

Sewer camera work was updated on. Mr. Rehab did the sewer cleaning and camera work. They started by Reynolds and worked their way down to where it turns to plastic which is new. They did not find anything except on Reynolds Avenue there were some laterals that were leaking, and they will need to be grouted and they will have to be lined. One is a 16 and one is an 18 and are both transition lines. The laterals coming in from the properties is where it seems to be leaking substantially. This will be put on the schedule.

With a lot of water issues in the Spring, the locations are all on cell and the internet is not good. It is DSL. The communication signal tends to drop off at the Corning tank. Auman gets calls during the night that there is a loss of communications. Auman stated that they need to go to a cable modem. They got some prices – Comcast is available in the location. It is substantially less than what is paid now. It will be more reliable. Everything came in to about \$12,000. This is not something that was planned on, but it needs to be done.

The flow meters at the Big Spring and Corning are due to be replaced. Auman has some prices for that. It is a clamp on mag meter. Best price was about \$17,000 a meter. Calibration is an issue. The Big Spring will be done first. The other project can be budgeted out.

Sewer Report

The magnetite will be started Thursday and they will run through the sludge going through the system and Thursday, if everything is okay Wednesday, they will flow magnetite Thursday. Hopefully by next week everything will be up and running. The magnetite process was discussed briefly. The proposed tour of the plant was also discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Big Spring Cover RFP

Mr. Stewart discussed the proposed RFP for the cover at the Big Spring. He put a draft together and presented it to Authority members. Borough Council did see the draft. Mr. Stewart wanted to let the public know that the Authority is replacing the cover and it is a goal to replace the cover that is attractive and meets all of the DEP requirements. No feedback was received by Council. He is looking for feedback before it is sent out.

It will realistically take months to get the RFP out, have a time for review, get the RFPs in and review them, interview, and pick an engineer. Funding will need to be found as well. Senator Corman's office stated that they would do everything that could do help with funding. Once a number is established, that can be addressed.

Other Projects:

Some of the other water projects were discussed. Milesburg and Coca-Cola were mentioned. The back-flow prevention project was also discussed. Centre Region will add the Authority to their plan review check list so that the Water Department can see a copy of the plans and see who is going in where.

Black Walnut stormwater project was discussed. A site meeting was held.

A manhole was found under a swimming pool at Parkview Heights. It was in the right of way.

Some smoke testing was done in the Spring and some property owners need to be contacted for issues.

The gas line project on Curtin Street was discussed briefly. The issue of killing the trees was also discussed. The project will take place next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Inoperable Fountains

Mr. Stewart brought up that Council members inquired about why the drinking fountain at the Big Spring and the water fountain there do not work. Auman stated that a drinking fountain water line froze and broke at some point ten years ago. At this point, the sidewalk and the road would need to be torn up to put new line in.

With the other fountain, the drain does not work. A new drain would need to be dug to a sewer line. Trying to recycle the water has not been successful.

An estimate will be obtained. Some funds from the bulk water fund will be supplied for the repair.

Mr. Jon Eaton, Council member, spoke briefly about the water line upgrades and budgeting. Leak loss was discussed. Funding source for leaks was discussed in relation to the Big Spring Cover. Mr. Eaton expressed his support of the Authority and crews and wants to see the system realistically upgraded.

ADJOURNMENT:

**Mr. Halderman moved to adjourn.
Mr. Walker seconded the motion.
Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.