

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

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the August 6, 2019, 2019, Bellefonte Borough Authority was called to order at the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building at 6 p.m. Executive Session was held after the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

STAFF: Mr. Ralph Stewart
Mr. Bob Cook
Mr. Matt Auman

ENGINEERS: Mr. Eric Lundy

GUESTS: Jon Eaton, Councilmember
William Carey

MINUTES:

Mr. Halderman moved to approve the June 4, 2019 Authority meeting minutes.

**Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.
Motion carried.**

ORAL:

William Carey – Little League Field

Mr. Carey spoke about the construction of the new little league field. The grass has been planted and needs to be watered. They tried to run hoses from across the street to the property. They received permission from the neighbor to draw from the outside tap and they offered to pay his water bill. Mr. Carey wants to see if there is anyway to get that portion of the water bill waived while the field is watered. There is no fire hydrant nearby. The cars were driving over the hoses and that is the reason for the request. He has no idea of the cost.

Authority members were on board for this idea.

Mr. Johnson moved to allow the Bellefonte Little League to tap off of a Bellefonte resident/homeowner at 736 N. Penn Street, waiving the excess water usage fee for that use to water newly planted ball field.

Mr. Halderman seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Jon Eaton, Council – Water Leaks

Mr. Eaton gave his presentation on analysis of water leaks based on the water reports received monthly on Big Spring and Corning. This was something that he pulled together based on the reports provided. He developed a theory on looking at future water leaks presented on the data on the reports.

Daily numbers were included with a three-day moving average which eliminated some of the daily totals that significantly deviate. He also discussed trends and the SCADA system. One day the system may read low and then reads high. He started tracking this October 2018, and there was a minimum point reached, about 2.4 million gallons per day. That is about as good as it was in 2018.

Mr. Eaton described that somewhere around the 22nd or 24th, something began to happen, and all the numbers went up. It stayed at that level until December. With the number of customers, this is about 30 gallons per day and according to USGS, water consumption for a typical adult is 80-100 gallons per day. As the system went by the end of last summer and into October, the minimal was reached. It ramped up in usage. He described 2019 and stated that usage was well above 2018 and he correlated this with the Howard Street project. Mr. Auman stated that if Mr. Eaton went back to look at the reports, it will show the leaks gallons per day up to that point. Howard was not as significant as other repaired prior to that.

There was a major leak on Shope Street. There were three repairs total. At this point, it is better than it was at any point in 2018. Mr. Eaton stated that when the monthly reports are compiled, they can be interpreted into leaks and subsequent repairs. He plans on continuing this into the future for his own benefit.

Mr. Eaton also analyzed collections and where the meter readings would be. The water collection revenue was divided by the residential water rate to approximate the gallons per day being used. He did this and came up with about .71 gallons per day.

DEP reports were also analyzed. The Big Spring may include flows being delivered to Coca Cola and Milesburg. Going back and looking at the other collections, about 610,000 gallons per day, cost wise it comes back to about \$6.49 per thousand gallons per water. This would be based on a three-person household.

Mr. Eaton's reasoning for pulling this together was to get an idea of where the Borough stands on health with future challenges are for the Borough relative to the water system. The system may need to be updated in the future and pulling the story together for the public may be helpful. Pumping more than is used is related to equipment wear and tear.

Mr. Stewart asked Mr. Eaton to do a study at what it would cost to replace the system per foot. 30 miles of water line with average size of pipe, costs spread over 30-40 years. When council oversaw the system, they had a theory that it was cheaper to leave it leak. He would like to find a happy medium. The Borough residents are not ready, financially, to spend the amount it will take to replace the system. Mr. Stewart explained some of the financial challenges and mandates that the system has undergone over the last twenty years or so.

Leaks were discussed and what to do about the next phase. Mr. Stewart met with a vendor who is willing to come in and speak with Authority members. The majority of the leaks never surface and there may be large leaks that do not surface. If there was a monitoring system that was on 24-7 that could be managed better. Grants and other financing can be sought out to replace the system in sections.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Eaton discussed the data in more depth. Authority members remarked on continuing to make repairs as needed and making leaps and bounds on what used to be done. Mr. Auman was commended on his work in leak detection. The Authority will continue to get leak numbers down into the future. The Authority has the responsibility of taking care of the system.

In final, the hacking of the system was discussed briefly.

COMMUNICATION WRITTEN: Nothing presented.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Water/Sewer Fund report June 2019

Water/Sewer Fund Report July 2019

61% completed on the revenue side on the water fund and revenue and expenses line up for 7 months through the year. \$51,940, net income and a little over half million in checking which should look like this at this point in the year.

In the sewer fund, revenue is a little light. It is coming from line 369405 from the Spring Benner Walker portion of revenue.

Mr. Halderman moved to approve the financial reports.

**Mr. Johnson second.
Motion carried.**

ENGINEER REPORT – WATER:

Engineer Water Report, August 2019

New Bulk water loading station application submitted end of May, submitted permit application a few weeks later. Correspondence with DEP at the end of July anticipated issuing the permit at the end of August.

Water Report, August 2019

Mr. Auman reported on the water system work. 1-3 had full DEP inspection of water facilities. Everything went well with minor infractions. June 2 a new tap was installed at the meetinghouse at West 5th. June 5 replaced fire hydrant at Ridge and E. Beaver. June 8 removed the dead pine trees at the spring and cleaned that up. June 9, conduits were dug for power supply over to the display fountain. That is not quite done but everything was done equipment wise. That will be up and running soon. June 10 the old two inch main was removed and replaced. June 11 a new tap was installed for Rogers Stadium. June 15-18 did sewer cleaning and camera work. June 22, the water crew helped with the Lamb Street bridge drain project. Drains were being replaced. June 24 repaired two-inch main break at Logan Street. June 25 replaced a hydrant at 488 Blanchard Street. June 26, hydrant was replaced at 217 E. Logan Street, the 29th hydrant at 302 E. Lamb and the 30th hydrant at 302 E. Curtin was replaced. June 31 a four-inch main leak was repaired at Bishop and Wilson. They are paving Bishop the end of summer.

The sprinkler system at the Courthouse was discussed. Mr. Auman stated that he felt that the source will be off of Allegheny Street. A flow test is scheduled for tomorrow. Sommer Fire Protection out of Morrisdale is doing the test. A report will be provided.

The former Bell Buick/Black Walnut Body shop garage was discussed. The basement was always 3 feet full and causing a lot of head on the lateral. It is terracotta jointing. It was dug up and the storm drain under the building was cleaned out. It got the flows down substantially. A main was found that runs and picks up the sewer line that comes down through Maria off of Linn Street. A plastic lateral will be installed and sealed up.

ENGINEER REPORT – SEWER:

**Engineer Sewer Report July 2019
Engineer Sewer Report August 2019**

The final start up of the bio mag unit was begun and it is ongoing and running well. Once the system is fully charged, the performance testing will be done. The effluent is looking good.

The contract is nearing final completion and will be finally complete with the bio mag process. The certificate of construction for permitting has been completed and sent into DEP.

There were several work change directives during the project. They have been converted into change orders.

Work change directives, 3, 4 and 5 are included in the change order and are included in the pay application which was at the table for approval. This is the last work change directive no. 6 and the additional work has been accounted for. There is a listing of items.

Work change directive 6 was considered for approval. Discussion was held on some of the items included. The amount submitted by McCrossin totals \$67,191.00. There are two items in dispute. It is recommended that no payment is provided because it was part of the original contract. Those items were taken out. The amount to be approved is \$60,577.20.

Mr. Halderman moved to approve the \$60,577.20, work change directive No. 6.

Mr. Falcone seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Mr. Halderman moved to approve the two pay applications in the amount stated.

Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

The NPDES has been started and the bank certificate and insurance, as updated, is in process.

BA 17-WW3 pay app 15-7-31-19 NEA – Signed

Bellefonte 17-WW4 pay app 12 – Electric – Signed

DEP BBA Construction Certificate – 7-31-2019 – Final

WCD – Summary 3-5 CO REV -7-31-2019

WCD Summary 6 – 08-10-2019

Sewer Report

Bulk water sales for July was approximately 385,500 gallons.

A less expensive box was purchased for the north clarifier at \$5,643.00 and not \$21,000. The touch screen at the BNR panel was replaced. Flow meters for the two transfusers were replaced. July 23 the second tanker load of magnetite was delivered. Last month the loader had to be sent out for a fuel leak to be repaired.

No tour was scheduled to date. They have been troubleshooting, per Mr. Stewart. Tours will likely be scheduled after the performance testing is completed.

OLD BUSINESS:

RFP for Big Spring Cover designs permitting issued

Mr. Stewart discussed the RFP for the Big Spring cover. That was sent out in July. August 14 there is an onsite meeting at the Big Spring for any interested consultant to attend. The RFP's are due the end of August.

NEW BUSINESS:

Daily Water Withdrawal Reports May, June, July, and August 2019 included in the packet.

Annual Water Quality Report is available on Borough's website.

BSDW PFAS Sampling Plan information for public water system June 5, 2019

Mr. Stewart explained that there was a problem at an institution in Southeastern PA and this started emphasis on PFAS chemical. This is something used in fire foam. The sample the DEP did at the spring today, is measured in the trillions. They will also go to State College and other locations. The testing will be expensive if mandated. No one is set up to do the testing yet and is something that is on the radar. Samples are now delivered to Lancaster.

Fixed Base Meter Reading System

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Stewart attended the Borough Association conference and Monaca Borough did a presentation on innovative things that they are doing. One is a fixed-based meter reading system. At present, the meters are read by drive by. The fixed-based system is antenna based and can read the meters with the push of a button. Customers can check online if they desire to as well. LB Water did the Monaca system and the Borough also has used LB water for years. He expressed an interest in their system and they will get some pricing together and do a presentation to the Authority.

They are also interested in installing nearly permanent leak loggers that are read. Other cities have done this. The Borough is only reading the meters at the structures, the loggers read what is happening on the system.

The fixed based system was available before, but it was out of the funding range for the Borough. Mr. Stewart believes that the Borough is ready to see some numbers on this and look for some outside funding.

The Authority went into Executive Session to discuss legal and contract issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION