

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH  
AUTHORITY  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 11, 2020 – 6 p.m.  
236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, PA 16823  
[www.bellefonte.net](http://www.bellefonte.net)**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the February 11, 2020, 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:**

Mr. Frank (Buddy) Halderman  
Mr. Joe Falcone  
Mr. Brian Walker  
Mr. Doug Johnson (via teleconference)  
Mr. Mike Schmidt  
Mr. Joe Beigle (via teleconference)

**STAFF:**

Mr. Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager  
Mr. Bob Cook  
Mr. Matt Auman

**EXCUSED:**

Mr. Greg Brown

**ENGINEERS:**

Mr. Bob Decker

---

**MINUTES:**

**Mr. Walker moved to approve the January 7, 2020 Authority meeting minutes.  
Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.  
Motion carried.**

**ORAL:**

Mr. Stewart asked that the Authority go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS WRITTEN:**

**Letter from DEP re: Evaluation for Possible Redesignation**

This letter was addressed to Council, but Mr. Stewart presented it to the Authority for review. The DEP is looking at surrounding streams for redesignation, as they did with Spring Creek, a few years ago. The classification for Spring Creek was changed to a high-quality trout stream. The DEP is looking at Logan Branch and Bald Eagle which are the two closest to the Borough. This letter was for information purposes only.

Brief discussion was held on contacting the legislators on opposing further evaluation and redesignation due to potential unfunded mandates. The letter speaks of submitting comments, per Mr. Stewart. A letter will be directed to Rep. Benninghoff and Sen. Corman.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

**Water/Sewer Fund Report**

Mr. Falcone gave a brief financial report. The water fund was titled for the 12 months ending but it was only for one month, January 2020.

**ENGINEER REPORT - WATER**

The engineers discussed Mr. Decker becoming the main engineer for water and wastewater. The annual fee would be waived and there would be representation at the Authority meetings. If he cannot attend, then Eric Lundy would attend.

**ENGINEER REPORT - SEWER**

There were some issues with some of the equipment at the WWTP. The mag drum drive unit leaked oil. It was replaced Tuesday/Wednesday of last week. Evoqua took the old one out and replaced it with new, and the one that was leaking oil is getting rebuilt and will be sent back for a spare for the plant.

A bearing went bad in the shear mill and they replaced that. There is concern that although everything is under warranty, the new equipment is presenting some issues.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Nothing presented.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Mr. Auman – Water Report**

Mr. Johnson inquired about the Corning line. Mr. Auman reported that it has been creeping up and nothing has been found. Homeland Manufacturing went online the beginning of January and they are not sure how much they are using yet.

January 2, the restroom at Talleyrand were winterized. January 6 the conduit was completed at Governor's Park. January 8 replaced 20 feet of 6 inch on Mill Street. January 13 – 14 worked on pump house maintenance. January 15 replaced the service line at 132 Brown Avenue January 16 more pump house maintenance. January 17, they looked into a sinkhole thinking there may be a leak. There was no leak at 41 South Monroe. A service line leak was found at 206 N. Spring on the customer side. They were made aware. They replaced two-inch check valves at Halfmoon Hill Pump House. January 21 replaced 40 feet of 6 inch on Mill Street. January 22 replaced a check valve on Pump No.2 at Corning. January 24 did a repair on the main at 219 E. Burroughs. January 27 did a clamp on the 2-inch main at Burroughs and Ridge. January 28 the service line was replaced at 162 Upper Coleville Road. January 29 service line was replaced at 715 W. Water. Customer side has a leak. They were notified. January 29 other leaks was found on Buffalo Run Road. Customer side has a leak and they were notified. January 30 continued leak detection.

### **Mr. Cook – Sewer Report**

Bulk water sales for January 2020 was approximately 14,200 gallons.

Two employees were injured in January – one is out of work and the other is still working. January 30 the new BNR air compressor was delivered to the plant. February 3, Ingersoll Rand subcontractors installed the BNR compressor. February 5, BNRs were drained for start up for the new compressor. January 31, 2020, the 2019 sludge/biosolids EDM was forwarded to the EPA.

### **National Rural Conference/Glass Bottled Water Product**

Mr. Stewart reported that at the conference last year a sponsoring agency had bottled water available. Mr. Stewart discussed the possibility of doing this in the Borough. He did some research and found a company out of New York that would supply bottles. He emailed him inquiring about product. The rep stated that glass bottles were available at different pricing. The rep stopped in the Borough offices and dropped off samples. They range from .30 to .50 per bottle. He indicated that in Allentown there was a company that had a bottling machine and he would get Mr. Stewart the information on that. More information will follow if the Authority would like to pursue it.

Mr. Falcone inquired if they would be sold commercially. Mr. Stewart stated that the Borough/Authority would have this as a product, and it would be sold commercially in the

region. All of the legalities and insurance components would need to be researched. Authority members were in favor of this project.

### **Resolution – Claims at Summit Park**

Mr. Stewart stated that they are not making much progress and the solicitor has recommended that the Borough Authority approve the resolution. It states that under the municipal claims law, the Authority has to approve the resolution to collect attorneys' fees in connection with a municipal claim. Approval would allow the Authority to submit attorneys' fees in connection with the claim.

**Mr. Johnson moved to approve the Resolution.**

**Mr. Beigle seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried.**

### **Benner Township Complaint**

A resident called Mr. Stewart and complained that in the area of the Shiloh Road exit, across the street from UAJA, there currently is no sewer. About 2 years ago, the Authority wrote a letter saying that the Borough is okay with that area being serviced by UAJA even though it was located in Benner Township. Spring Benner Walker wants to run a sewer line from that area down through and underneath Spring Creek and up over a hill through the airport. It would run around the airport property and connect with the airport system that comes into the Borough plant, instead of letting UAJA service them.

The resident is requesting that the Authority re-send the letter and send it to the DEP or whomever would be affected, as it seems like a waste of funds and is inefficient and not effective. The resident offered that if the line goes in, there will be a new rule that everyone will need to hookup to that line in that area. Mr. Halderman stated that he would rather state that there is already a letter on file.

The Authority went into Executive Discussion to discuss some legal matters.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Walker moved to adjourn.**

**Mr. Falcone seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.**