

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH WATER AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

**July 2, 2024 – 6 p.m.
236 West Lamb Street
Bellefonte, PA 16823
www.bellefonte.net**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order July 2, 2024 at 6 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE *Recognizing and honoring the life of Mike Schmidt – longtime Authority Board member.*

ROLL CALL Authority members present:

Mr. Joe Beigle
Mr. Greg Brown (EXCUSED)
Mr. Jon Eaton
Mr. Joe Falcone
Mr. Frank (Buddy) Halderman
Mr. Doug Johnson

Staff

Mr. Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager
Mr. Frank Noll, WWTP Superintendent
Mr. Matt Auman, Public Works Superintendent
Mr. Shannon Struble, WWTP Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Julie Brooks, Public Works Assistant Superintendent

Engineer: Jean Ryan via Zoom

MINUTES

A motion was made by Beigle and seconded by Johnson to approve the minutes from June 6, 2024. No discussion. Motion carried.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

In accordance with Act 65 of 2021, If a matter is not on the Agenda, the Authority cannot take official action on it with some exceptions. The Authority can act on matters relating to potential or real emergencies. The Authority may add a matter of agency business to its agenda through

majority vote. The Authority should state the reason why the action item is being added to the Agenda. The Authority may vote to add an action item(s) to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS- ORAL

There were no public comments, but there was a discussion regarding last week's boil water advisory for Big Spring/Bellefonte Borough consumers.

- The boil water advisory was related to chlorine level issues in the water line.
- It was determined that there was an issue with the alarms.
- Consumers were also upset about the lack of notification. Authority staff noted that consumers need to provide their contact information to the Authority to be contacted in the event of a water emergency. The lack of landlines makes individual communication with consumers difficult.
- There was also an issue regarding confusion about which consumers in the Borough were affected.
- The situation was further complicated by delays by the testing authorities.
- A concern was raised regarding the lack of information offered to the public regarding steps being completed during the testing window during the advisory.
- All tests submitted came back fine, there were no actual issues with the water.
- Authority staff is working to address all of these issues. The Authority is working to create a press release to help address these issues and offer information to the public in a better/faster manner in the event of another advisory.
- There will be a full report available for the Board at the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS (Written)

PFAS Pretreatment NPDES Permit Language Fact Sheet

FINANCIALS (Mr. Falcone)

Budget v. Actual May 2024

- It was again noted there was a lack of revenue on the Waterside. Bulk water sales are down this year.

Eaton motioned and Falcone seconded to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The engineer (Jean) highlighted several projects completed in June.

- Projects:
 - Wastewater: The engineer is working with McClure to install the new HVAC unit. The unit has been ordered and the total cost was approximately \$90,000. The Engineer is waiting for the unit to come in.
 - The Engineer received CAD drawings for the Railroad Avenue bridge replacement. They are now moving forward with the GP-5 permit application. They plan to have that done this month.
 - The engineer did some 3D scanning of several sites at the wastewater treatment plant in June that are slated for projects in the future. The scans will help to put together drawings and plans for future contracts.

- A draft of the Big Spring Cover report is included in tonight's packet. The final report will hopefully be completed by the next Authority meeting. There was a discussion regarding an option to drill wells.

SEWER REPORT (Superintendent - Frank)

The Superintendent highlighted the details of various projects and repairs completed in June.

PFAS testing discussion.

Bulk Water sales for June: 524,600g

WATER REPORT

Details were offered regarding projects and repairs completed in June.

- There was a chlorine issue resulting in a boil water advisory at the Big Spring Pumphouse on 6/26.
- 71 PAONE calls in June
- 8 Water Meters were installed

OLD BUSINESS

Big Spring Cover Project

- Final report will be available by the next meeting

Service Line Inventory Project Update

- Brief history/Timeline:
 - Mandate by the EPA
 - Lead pipes were banned from use in 1991
 - Water needs to be tested for acidity/corrosiveness and amounts of lead
 - Corrosive water increases the amount of lead in the water
 - Flint, Michigan in 2014 (The Flint Water Authority switched their water source with no testing, people were suffering from lead poisoning. They did not inform consumers that the water source was switched and they did not treat the water for acidity/corrosiveness
 - Because of previous issues (Flint, Michigan) from 2015-2021, EPA updated their lead and copper rules and Authorities now have to complete the inventory of service lines to check for lead and copper.
 - The inventory mandate was enacted in 2023 as a mitigation effort to ensure no other communities suffer the same issue as Flint, Michigan.
 - EPA is requiring 3 visuals of each line to verify no water lines contain copper or lead.
 - If you can document that a house was built after 1991, and the service line was also installed after 1991, that documentation is adequate and the Authority would not need to dig up those particular lines.
 - One issue is the authority does not own and did not install the service lines, and does not have a record of what is/was installed in the ground.

NEW BUSINESS

Daily Water Withdrawal June 2024 - Will be included in the August packet.

Spring-Benner-Walker Area Joint Meeting Minutes May 28th & June 10th, 2024

Discuss the vacancy and consider making a recommendation to council at the August meeting

DISCUSSION

Further discussion regarding the Bandshell and Big Spring Cover (well drilling) project.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn tonight's meeting. No discussion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.