

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Derry held in the Authority office at 620 N. Chestnut Street, Derry, PA on Wednesday, April 18, 2019.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 o'clock, p.m. with the following members answering the Roll Call: Mr. Peter A. Checca, Chairman; Mr. Fredrick D. Goodman, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Richard K. Thomas, Secretary; Mr. Daniel D. Chaney, Treasurer, and Mr. Grant A. Nicely, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. Also, in attendance were Authority Manager, Amy Forsha, Solicitor Samuel Dalfonso Esq., of Dodaro, Matta, and Cambest and Engineer Mark Gera of Gibson-Thomas Engineering, Inc.

On a motion by Mr. Goodman and seconded by Mr. Nicely the minutes of the regular meeting of March 20, 2019 were presented for approval and all members voted in favor.

Visitors

Dan Scifo reporter with the Latrobe Bulletin was present. Barbara Phillips of 241 West Owens Ave stated that she noticed that the 18-inch storm line bypass was installed on Wineman Way and she expressed her gratitude to the Authority for working on a solution for the W Owens Ave flooding. Mrs. Forsha stated that she is unsure if this will solve all the flooding issues on Owens Ave but it will definitely help with the situation. Next, Ms. Ashley Hauser who is purchasing 418 West 5th Ave stated that she spoke with her neighbor about joining her in repairs of a joint sewer line between the two properties. Ms. Hauser stated that the neighbor at 416 West 5th Ave told her that she would be willing to pay \$1,500 toward repairs of the sewer lateral but is unable to pay any more for the 400-foot sewer line that the two homes share. Ms. Hauser asked if the neighbors broken sewer lateral began leaking and seeping onto her property if the neighbor can be forced to fix her broken lateral. Solicitor Sam Dalfonso stated that she could be forced to make the repairs by court order. Mr. Dalfonso also informed Ms. Hauser that she could file a nuisance and a trespass action against her as a private citizen. Mr. Dalfonso stated that DEP may also get involved if the sewage is entering the stream. Real estate agent Sara Cowan who is representing Ashley Hauser asked if she could submit a certified plumber estimate and receive a temporary sewer lateral certification if the money is escrowed for repairs. Mrs. Forsha stated to email her a letter stating that the funds would be escrowed along with the estimate from the plumber. Ms. Cowan stated that she will email it to Mrs. Forsha.

Correspondence

Mrs. Forsha also presented a letter from Michael Rick of 123 21st Street who requested relief for a leak that he had under his trailer. After review Mr. Chaney made a motion to grant Mr. Rick a 50% credit on his bill and Mr. Nicely seconded with all members voting in favor. Next, Mrs. Forsha read a letter from John Vallorani of 636 State Route 217 who requested relief for a 170,000-gallon leak that occurred on his service line. Mr. Chaney made a motion to award Mr. Vallorani a 50% credit contingent that the leak was fixed and Mr. Thomas seconded with all members voting in favor.

Water Bills for March 2019 in the amount of \$92,828.11 and Sewer Bills in the amount of \$37,751.33 were presented for payment. On a motion put forth by Mr. Goodman and seconded by Mr. Chaney, all members voted to pay the bills

The Water Treasurer's Report showing a checking account balance on February 28, 2019 of \$70,182.13 with deposits of \$117,242.02 and less expenses of \$92,828.11 leaving a reconciled balance of \$94,596.04 for March 31, 2019 was presented by Mrs. Forsha. A motion to accept

the treasurer's report was offered by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Goodman. All members voted to accept the treasurer's report, as presented.

Next Mrs. Forsha presented the Sewer Treasurer's Report showing a checking account balance on February 28, 2019 of \$69,327.98 with deposits of \$76,386.58 and less expenses of \$37,751.33 leaving a reconciled balance of \$107,963.23 for March 31, 2019. Mr. Thomas moved and seconded by Mr. Goodman to accept the treasurer's report and attach the same as an exhibit and that the same be incorporated by reference and be made part of these minutes. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously approved.

The Manager's Water & Sewer Reports were presented by Mrs. Forsha. Included in her detailed monthly reports, Manager Forsha commented on the condition of Ethel Lake and the total gallons of potable water pumped for last month. The costs associated with operating the pump house and the sewage plant were announced and also included was an equipment report on mileage and fuel consumption. The finished water turbidity reading of .011 NTU was also announced.

The Engineers Report

Mr. Gera informed the Board that the Bob Biter Electrical has began work on the pumphouse electrical upgrades this week and equipment will begin being delivered on April 22nd. Mr. Gera also stated that Ligonier Construction will be starting the N. Chestnut Street waterline project as soon as school lets out.

The Solicitor's Report

Mr. Dalfonso informed the Board that he checked on the status of the amendments of the Articles of Incorporation with the Department of State but the articles have not yet been approved.

Water Old Business

Mrs. Forsha informed the Board that the East Owens Ave waterline replacement project is 50% completed. Mrs. Forsha stated that the guys were busy reading meters this week and will continue work on the line replacement next week.

Water New Business

Bob Biter Electrical has began work on the pumphouse electrical upgrades.

Sewer Old Business

Next, Mrs. Forsha informed the Board the Plum Contracting has completed installation of the 18" bypass storm line along Wineman Way.

Sewer Department New Business

Mrs. Forsha informed the Board that during the investigation of the illicit discharge from the outfall near 324 West 2nd Ave, the Authority dye tested fifteen homes and two home were found to have their sanitary sewer line connected to the storm line. Mrs. Forsha informed the Board that she is getting an estimate from a contractor to repair the two laterals, a protruding lateral, and also install a sanitary sewer manhole at the Kelly Way and Utopia intersection.

Stormwater Department

Mrs. Forsha stated that she got a list of every tax parcel within Derry Borough and had the billing company match current account numbers with tax parcels. Mrs. Forsha then stated

that she had approximately 330 tax parcels that did not have an existing account associated with it. She then reviewed each parcel on the Westmoreland County GIS site to determine if it was a vacant grassy lot, storage shed, homeowners' garage, etc. After review Mrs. Forsha stated that she determined that 13 new accounts will be formed (properties such as storage buildings, etc) and that 17 inactive accounts within Derry Borough will need to be activated to charge stormwater. Based on her review she estimated that the total number of stormwater accounts will be 1095. At \$10/month/account she is estimating a revenue of \$131,400 without taking into account delinquencies. Based on the estimated revenue Mrs. Forsha prepared a proposed stormwater budget. The proposed stormwater budget included the Penn Vest 3rd Street Loan, Audit, Pollution Reduction Plan Costs, Catch Basin/Storm line cleaning, education seminars, refuse, and a 20% portion of administrative expenses such as the manager's salary, clerical wages, unemployment compensation, hospitalization, postage, office supplies, office expense, software, and communication. Mrs. Forsha's proposed budget had an expense total of \$170,581, leaving an estimated deficit of \$39,181. Mrs. Forsha estimated budget was made based on the stormwater department contributing 20% to shared administrative costs. Mrs. Forsha also mentioned that the budget did not include any labor for the stormwater system and most likely repairs will need to be contracted out due to staffing constraints. In addition, Mrs. Forsha mentioned that about \$130,000 in expenses will be removed from the sanitary sewer budget as the 3rd Street loan is currently paid out of the sanitary sewer fund and also many administrative expenses will now be shared with the storm department. Mr. Checca questioned the costs of items such as postage and stated that he would like a spread sheet that shows the total cost per line and how much percentage wise that each department is going to pay. Mrs. Forsha mentioned that even though the sewer department will see a savings the Authority is not currently funding depreciation on the sewer side so extra money is needed in the sewer budget. Mrs. Forsha stated that it may be possible to reduce sewer rates by \$4/month/account. However, Mrs. Forsha also stated that she would like to hire another full-time sewer plant operator to be in training before the sewer plant operator retires in 2-3 years.

Next Mrs. Forsha suggested that the Board look into developing storm rules and regulations.

Mr. Nicely next made a motion that all checks be completing filled out before the Board members sign, and Mr. Chaney seconded with all members voting in favor.

Mr. Nicely made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm o'clock and Mr. Chaney seconded with all members voting in favor.

Mr. Richard K. Thomas
Secretary