

MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF BUFFALO TOWNSHIP

SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2011 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

PRESENT: Cynthia Braden, Warren Capenos, John Haven, Authority Manager Don Amadee, Attorney Pam Walters, Engineer Ed Schmitt

ABSENT: Chairman Fred Swartz, Richard Healey

1. The September 15th, 2011 regular monthly meeting of the Municipal Authority of Buffalo Township was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Cynthia Braden at 7:00 P.M.
2. Cynthia Braden announced the meeting was being recorded and requested that anyone in the audience taping the meeting provide his or her name and address. No one responded.
3. Cynthia Braden led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. Approval of minutes of the August 18th, 2011 regular monthly meeting: A motion was made by John Haven, seconded by Warren Capenos, to approve the minutes of the August 18th, 2011 regular monthly meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Open to the floor: There were no residents or guests in attendance.
6. Treasurer's report:
 - (a) Financial Report for August of 2011: The Treasurer's report for August of 2011 was presented by Authority Manager Don Amadee. A motion was made by Warren Capenos, seconded by John Haven, to approve the Treasurer's report for August of 2011. Motion was passed unanimously.
 - (b) Invoices: Don presented the Board with the list of monthly bills for approval. A motion was made by John Haven, seconded by Warren Capenos, to pay the invoices as listed on the Cash Requirements list for September 15th, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.
7. Manager's Report:
 - (a) Possible refinance of Office Building mortgage: Don informed the Board that he was soliciting proposals to refinance the mortgage on the office building. He noted that rates today are lower than our current 4.25% rate so it makes sense to see if we have any refinance options. Don said he hope to have proposals ready for our October meeting.
8. Solicitor's Report:
 - (a) Water Plant Property Acquisition: Pam informed the Board that our variance hearing for the new water plant site has been scheduled for the 29th of September.
9. Engineer's Report:
 - (a) Freeport Filter Plant Project: Ed said he has no news on the permit status from DEP. He did say that he and Peter Buss met with Don last week to put together a game plan of items that needed to be completed prior to bidding. The purpose of this review was to prepare ourselves to bid as soon as possible after we get the permits. Ed said it would be possible for us to bid this fall and start construction in the spring but we will need to get those permits soon for this to happen.
 - (b) Winfield Sanitary Sewer Construction: Ed said there have been no changes here. Don noted that the water is still draining from the manhole at the Sarver Road BFCT trailhead.
 - (c) 537 Plan Update: Ed explained that the revised resolution for the 537 Plan Update has been drafted and forwarded to the Buffalo Township Supervisors. Don added that after discussing the situation with John Haven, he asked the Township to postpone their consideration of the revisions until their next meeting. John and Don felt this was prudent since the Cooper's Station Planning Module was also on the Supervisor's lengthy agenda and people might confuse these issues when they are, in fact, completely separate.

10. Old Business:

- (a) Sunset Tank Paint Failure: Don reviewed with the Board photographs of the inside of the 1 MG Sunset Tank. These pictures were taken several weeks ago from the access hatch on the top of the tank and they clearly show that the exterior paint failure that we can see from the ground also is also happening inside the tank. Don said that he still plans to proceed with the interior inspection as approved because it will be needed to prepare the bid specifications for the tank repair. In response to a question from the Board, Ed responded that repainting the tank could cost \$100,000 to \$125,000.
- (b) Cooper's Station Planning Module: Don informed the Board that the Planning Commission had reviewed this request and forwarded it to the Board of Supervisors not recommending approval. In their minutes, they posed several questions to the Authority. Don responded to the Planning Commission with the requested answers and documentation. Surprisingly, the module was not returned to the Planning Commission but was approved by the Township Supervisors at their last meeting.

11. New Business:

- (a) Request from Michael Bitterice, 635 Short Street: Don reviewed with the Board a request from water and sewer customer Michael Bitterice. Mr. Bitterice lives in an area served by the Phase I/II Sewer Project. Shortly after the sewers were installed back in 1989, he paid his tap fees and made arrangements with a contractor to tap in. When the contractor attempted to make the connection, he discovered that our tap was too high for him to tap into and suggested he inform the Authority of this. Mr. Bitterice did so and following a discussion over the next 9 months, was told that he could either connect only his first floor or pump to the tap. He decided to do neither and has paid his bill for the 21 years since just as if he had service, even though he did not. His has requested that the Authority stop billing him for sanitary sewer service since he is not able to make use of the facilities provided. Don indicated that he has reviewed this request and he recommends that we stop billing for sanitary service. Don added that while our rules were correctly enforced at the time, currently we would have corrected this situation for the customer by lowering the tap or providing a pump. Following a brief discussion, the Board directed Don to inform Mr. Bitterice that we would stop billing him for sanitary sewer service.

12. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made at 7:45 p.m. by Warren Capenos, seconded by John Haven, and approved unanimously.