

MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF BUFFALO TOWNSHIP

APRIL 15, 2021 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

PRESENT: John Haven, Chairperson; Rosemarie Ciaccio, Vice-Chairperson; Eric Smith, Secretary; Patrick Reitz, Treasurer; Michael Hnath, Solicitor; Matt Sprung, Engineer; Kristy Donaldson, Manager

ABSENT: Richard Healey, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

1. The April 15, 2021, regular monthly meeting of the Municipal Authority of Buffalo Township was called to order by Chairperson John Haven at 7:07 p.m.
2. John Haven stated that the meeting was being recorded and requested that if anyone in the audience is taping the meeting to please state their name and address.
3. Approval of the minutes of the March 18, 2021, regular monthly meeting: A motion was made by Rosemarie Ciaccio, and seconded by Patrick Reitz, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2021, regular monthly meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Open to the floor:
5. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Financial Report for March 2021: The Treasurer's report for March 2021 was presented. A motion was made by Patrick Reitz, seconded by Eric Smith, to approve the Treasurer's report for March 2021. The motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Invoices: The Board reviewed the list of monthly bills for approval as of April 15, 2021. A motion was made by Eric Smith to approve payment of the monthly bills. The motion was seconded by Rosemarie Ciaccio, and passed unanimously.
6. Manager's Report:
 - a. The annual financial interest forms are due by May 1st.
 - b. The annual Financial Audit of the Authority began April 14th.
 - c. A meeting with HTWA took place on April 6th, regarding the emergency interconnect. DEP is now requiring community water systems to comply with the Uninterrupted System Service Plan, which means water systems must be able to provide water service for a certain amount of time if there is an outage. The interconnect is currently configured to only serve Buffalo Township. HTWA would like to have the ability to reverse the flow from Buffalo Township in the event of an emergency. Flow data, Sunset Tank elevation, pipe size and material were provided to their Engineer. More information will be communicated as the project progresses.
 - d. Exeter Supply was onsite April 13th to demo Gutermann leak detection equipment.
7. Solicitor's Report:
 - a. Michael Hnath informed the Board on the follow-up meeting with SBTMA regarding the water service agreement, which took place on April 6th. The agreed upon rate increase per 1,000 gallons of water is \$3.15, which is 60% of what Buffalo Township customer's currently pay. James Favero, Solicitor for SBTMA, submitted the revised agreement to Penn Vest for their approval. Pending Penn Vest and SBTMA Board approval, Eric Smith made the motion to approve the Amended Agreement for water service with SBTMA. Rosemarie Ciaccio seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
8. Engineer's Report:
 - a. Matt Sprung provided the quote from Kukurin for intake repairs, which was \$27,850.00, and included prevailing wages. Because the quote was received right before the meeting, Matt was unsure if it included the rail system for the raw water pumps and the valving work for the river isolation valve. John Haven asked if the repairs were an emergency or could the project be put out to bid. Kristy Donaldson stated that it is an emergency because if something would happen to the raw water pumps, they would not be accessible without the rail system and there would be no way to pump water. Patrick Reitz made the motion to authorize the emergency repair not to exceed \$35,000.00, for the whole project. Eric Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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- b. Matt Sprung updated the Board on the review of water and sewer construction plans received for Oak Creek Farms. He and Ed Schmitt both agree that the proposed extension of the water line from S.R. 356 is unacceptable. The easement provided for the waterline extension is only 20 feet, which would not provide enough room for equipment if there was a need for repair. In addition, the line is extended between two residential lots to make the connection with Twin Oaks. If there were a line break or repair needed, the potential for significant damage exists to both homes and it would be very difficult to make the repairs due to space constraints. Kristy Donaldson agreed with the comments from Gibson-Thomas and stated that she was unaware of the easement until the plans were delivered to the Authority office, and she researched it on the Butler County deeds website. The Authority Board agreed that when Gary Herbert, F&H Development, was at the December meeting, the suggestion to look at other options was a preliminary consideration and that the more desirable route is to extend the waterline down Parker Road. Kristy Donaldson asked if it would be an option to include all the potential land developers in this discussion since it will impact everyone involved. The Authority Board agreed it would be a good idea and suggested that she facilitate a meeting with the Developers.
9. Old Business:
- a. Kristy Donaldson contacted Jere Sweigart with Stantec regarding the S.R. 356 widening project. He stated that they are still in preliminary design and have not yet received authorization from Penn Dot to proceed with final design. John Haven suggested that the project may be pushed back due to funding.
 - b. Kristy Donaldson updated the Board on violation notices sent for failure to refinance without a smoke and dye test, per Buffalo Township Ordinance 125. As discussed at March's meeting, she asked the Board to consider making the recommendation to the Township to remove the requirement to obtain a smoke and dye test for a refinance. Eric Smith made a motion to recommend that the Township remove the requirement to obtain a smoke and dye test for a refinance from the Ordinance 125. The motion was seconded by Rosemarie Ciaccio, and passed unanimously.
 - c. Kristy Donaldson presented to COSTARS quote for the UV system at the sewer plant. The current system is 20+ years old and parts are obsolete. The quote is for a direct replacement and retrofit of the current system. The downtime and cost to install would be minimal. Matt Sprung stated that he is currently working with a couple of other systems that are going through this process. Rosemarie Ciaccio made the motion to approve the COSTARS bid in the amount of \$106,875.00, for UV equipment, shipment and start-up. The motion was seconded by Patrick Reitz, and the motion passed unanimously.
10. New Business:
11. Adjournment: Eric Smith made the motion to adjourn the regular monthly meeting. The motion was seconded by Rosemarie Ciaccio, which passed unanimously. The regular monthly meeting ended at 8:42 p.m.