

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
MINUTES**

**October 7, 2009**

The meeting of the Bethel Township Municipal Authority was called to order by Chairman, David Younker at 7: 02 p.m. on October 7, 2009 at the Bethel Township Community Center, Bethel PA.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Chairman Younker called the roll:

Harold Gruber – present

Rufus Geesaman – present

Kevin Stupp – present

Carl Weaver – present

Also present were, John Roche & Andrew Gaul -Vision Engineering,  
Solicitor, Terry Parish & Secretary, Darlene Orendo

**Public Comment**

At this time Chairman Younker recognized citizen's that had questions concerning the recent board decision to set the tapping fee to \$3,000. Several residents' also shared concerns and had questions regarding their individual situations.

At this time Solicitor Parish gave a detailed explanation of why the board was forced to set the tapping fee to all in attendance.

A question was asked about what penalties there are to someone who fails to hook up during the 60 day period. This has not yet been determined and will be discussed at the next meeting. It was also noted that the bills will be sent out on a monthly basis.

**Approval of Minutes**

Kevin Stupp made a motion to approve the minutes of September 2, 2009. Second by Rufus Geesaman. All agreed. Motion carried.

Harold Gruber made a motion to approve the minutes of September 16, 2009. Second by Rufus Geesaman. All agreed. Motion

**Member Report**

Rufus reported that a tax assessment notice was received for some land acquired by the Board. Solicitor Parish will prepare an appeal.

Rufus also reported that 2 applications for employment were received and will be placed on file. The Authority is not hiring at this time. He also reported that we had issued 25 permits to date which represents 29 EDU's and \$39,260.00.

Harold Gruber mentioned to residents that 4 of the 6 members also have to pay the tapping fee and hook into the system.

**Solicitor Report:**

At this time Chairman Younker recognized John Cox of Rhoads & Sinon, bond counsel. Mr. Cox was in attendance on behalf of Frank Leber to have members sign a resolution regarding a revision to PENNVEST funding. Rufus Geesaman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-11. Second by Harold Gruber. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor Parish then submitted Resolution 2009-12 to the Board to adopt for tapping fees. Rufus Geesaman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-12 dated October 07, 2009. Motion seconded by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

### **Engineer's Report:**

Monthly Report for September '09

This office has been working on the following items this past month and would like to update the Board as follows: (items denoted with "\*" have accompanying information in the Board's packet. Items denoted with "\*\*" have been forwarded to board members prior correspondence this month).

### **DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR BOARD REVIEW AND/OR ACTION (POTENTIAL VISITORS):**

1. Frystown Resident concerns and work items: As requested this office has worked on the following matters related to various resident concerns as follows:
  - a. \*We have asked the Geologist to investigate a resident claim of the sewer installation affecting their well water. Preliminary findings from the geologist have indicated the sewer project has not created any such problems with the well. The formal report should be issued shortly.
2. Bethel Resident concerns and work items:
  - a. The stormwater related concerns along and adjacent to properties along Lancaster Avenue were investigated in the field with the property owner. We will continue working on a report for the Board on this matter.

### **FINANCING MATTERS (PENNVEST & PENNWORKS):**

3. \*This office has been working with Bond Council on the Northern extension project and has prepared some documents to assist them in this regard. They may have a representative attending the meeting this evening to discuss.
4. \*This office is recommending payment of invoices (separate correspondence to the Board) for the construction project for the following listed contracts (through to 09/25/09) which would require Board action for payment. The payment details are attached (separate correspondence) and summarized as follows:
  - a. Contract # 1 Frystown collection lines (96% complete to date). **NO WORK THIS PERIOD. However, we did receive the paving invoice from the Township this morning which we are verifying for payment consideration consistent with PENNVEST requirements.**
  - b. Contract # 2 Bethel collection lines (94% complete to date). **NO WORK THIS PERIOD.**
  - c. Contract # 3 Bethel Pump Stations (99% complete).
  - d. Contract # 4 Bethel Wastewater Treatment Plant (97% complete).

- e. Contract # 5 Frystown Wastewater Treatment Plant (86% complete).
- f. Contract # 6 Mechanical Systems for WWTP and appurtenances (66% complete) NO WORK THIS PERIOD.
- g. Contract # 7 Plumbing Systems for WWTP and appurtenances (77% complete).
- h. Contract # 8 Electrical Systems for WWTP and appurtenances (77% complete).
- i. OVERALL PROJECT (ALL CONTRACTS) 90.6 % Complete.

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND LOGISTICS:**

- 5. Our inspection reports are available to the Board members (via our website) and can be furnished (paper copies) upon request. In summary the work has been progressing as follows:
  - a. **Contracts # 3 – # 8** The work on the various contracts continues in varying degrees.
    - i. The lining project for the village of Bethel (Bethel WWTP tanks and the pump stations) is now complete. We are awaiting final reports from the manufacturer evaluating the application process.
    - ii. The Bethel WWTP has begun the startup operations and is currently fully operational (only Bethel Elementary School flows for now).
    - iii. Work continues to progress in Frystown. The significant structures are constructed and well underway.

**OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING BOARD REVIEW AND/OR ACTION:**

- 6. Lining Work for Manholes and Logistics
  - a. This office received an email from PENNVEST staff who have resubmitted the original application for this upcoming funding (10/27/09) meeting. We were advised that this project may possibly be reconsidered.
- 7. CHANGE ORDERS:
  - a. We have included documentation for the Board's consideration in concurrence of change orders for the laboratory setup (plumbing and electrical contract changes). This was necessitated upon final layout of the lab bench and workstation with the contract operator.
    - i. \* Contract # 8 (Electrical) CHANGE ORDER # 16 documentation attached to this report as a follow up to the Board's approval last month. This particular estimate was under the approved amount but we are awaiting the Plumbing Change Order.
    - ii. Contract # 7 (Plumbing) CHANGE ORDER # xx (still awaiting the documentation from the plumbing contractor.

- b. \* Contract # 8 (ELECTRICAL) Change Order # 17 is attached for the Board's further consideration. This change order was required for additional relays in the control panel for essential equipment operations.
8. NORTHERN EXTENSION (Klahr Road).
- a. The current status of the final design and permitting are progressing on the following order:
    - i. The archeologist has received direction from the PHMC and will require time to complete his survey for the permitting. Once his work is completed we can finalize the layouts and overall design.
    - ii. Concurrently this office is preparing the documents for submission to PADEP and PENNDOT for permitting. We are awaiting clearance from the archaeologist before submitting.
    - iii. The board may want to discuss the archaeologist time frame with respect to various property questions which have arisen.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS/MISC. INFORMATION:**

- 9. This office has revised the standard connection detail (at existing pipe connection) and have distributed this to all contractors and posted it on our website.
- 10. WAIVER OF CONNECTION STANDARDS: As a follow up to the waiver's considered last month this office has issued letters to the residents formalizing the Board's decisions rendered.
- 11. As requested, this office has posted an editable PDF file of the sewer connection permit application on our website.
- 12. \*\*This office provided the revised DRAFT self liquidating debt report to Frank Leber's office for their review and comment.

The following notes were taken during the report.

Contract completion percentages were listed for members to see on the report. John mentioned some conflict with work completed on Contract #6. After discussion, Kevin Stupp made a motion to deny payment of the invoice to Contract #6 as recommended by the engineers. Motion seconded by Rufus Geesaman. All agreed. Motion carried.

6. Members were advised that our original application to PENNVEST for lining work for the manholes may be reconsidered. John will keep the Board advised of the results.

**7. Change Orders:**

i. Rufus Geesaman made a motion to approve Change Order #16 for Contract #8 for Electric. Second by Kevin Stupp. All agreed. Motion carried.

b. Rufus Geesaman made a motion to approve Change Order #17 to Contract #8. Motion seconded by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

Harold Gruber questioned when Frystown would be on line? John advised that the tank lining contract is currently on hold and are awaiting a full report before start up again. Andrew Gaul will expedite.

Andrew handed out an Industrial user questionnaire that should be given to commercial users when they make their connection arrangements.

### **Old Business:**

**b. Salem Lutheran Church** – Still gathering information, potential pipe problem between the properties of Woodward and Ebling. John advised they are doing some testing and will get back to the Board with a full report.

There was discussion about a re-inspection fee if the initial test fails. A proposal of \$50.00 was made. Rufus Geesaman made a motion to adopt a reinspection fee of \$50.00. Second by Harold Gruber. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mike Kreiser, operator for the Bethel plant gave members some data on generating some income by bringing a residential/commercial flow to the plant for treatment. More information will be given at the next meeting.

A drainage problem next to the Frystown WWTP was discussed. John Roche will meet with the land owner next week.

### **New Business**

A recommended tool list give to the Board by Mike Kreiser, Bethel plant operator was discussed. Rufus Geesaman made a motion to approve the purchase of the items. Second by Kevin Stupp. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor Parish gave resumes and cost schedules to members for consideration as a replacement for him. This will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

An executive session was called at 8:48 p.m. by Chairman Younker to discuss acquisition of real estate for the northern extension. The meeting reconvened at 9:12 p.m.

John Roche advised members that the Verizon pole near the Frystown WWTP was placed at the wrong spot. The cost to relocate the pole is \$1543.62. After discussion, Carl Weaver made a motion to approve the cost and have the pole moved. Second by Rufus Geesaman. All approved. Motion carried.

### **Authorization of Payment of Bills**

Rufus Geesaman recommended the Board keep the escrow account already in place to earn some interest. The paving bill to reimburse the Township was discussed.

Rufus made a motion to authorize payment of the bills, take action with the escrow account and pay the bill for Bethel Township of paving contingent on PENNVEST approval. Second by Kevin Stupp. All agreed. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Supervisor Randall Haag advised members of the results of a meeting he and Supervisor, Mike Orendo had with the County. They were advised there is no interest of the property at this time.

Two other residents had some questions and concerns.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. was made by David Younker.  
Second by Rufus Geesaman.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Darlene M.Orendo  
Secretary