

BETHEL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
MINUTES
Special Finance Meeting

September 16, 2009

The meeting of the Bethel Township Municipal Authority was called to order by Chairman, David Younker at 7: 05 p.m. on September 16, 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 – absent

Carl Weaver – present

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

Public Comment on Agenda

None

Member Report

Rufus reported on a conference on environmental issues by PMAA held in State College. This may be helpful to attend as we are operational.

He also reported on a meeting he and John Roche had with Tom McKeon and Solicitor, Mike Setley, BCIDA. The meeting was scheduled to discuss some funding options available through the County. Rufus felt they were very sympathetic to our situation and felt confident they would do something for us. A loan option is being looked into which would give us some cushion to keep rates down. They are also checking to see if there would be any community block grant money available.

Engineer Update:

Rufus Geesaman and Andrew Gaul met with a representative from Sherwin Williams regarding a wet well problem with the liner at the Lancaster Ave plant. They will propose some corrective action. There is also looking at an action plan to correct some lining spray that got on the back of the block on the outside of the building. This will be added to the October agenda.

Old Business:

a. Seiverling Waiver - Rufus Geesaman found a copy of a letter issued to the Board from John Seiverling, 8405 Lancaster Ave, requesting a waiver from the pipe required by the Board in the sewer connection manual. John would have to tear up his macadam driveway and replace what he already has in place. Rufus Geesaman met with

John to look and discuss the situation. Rufus made a motion to approve the waiver contingent on it passing pressure testing. Motion seconded by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

Rufus also mentioned that he and Solicitor Parish met with Del Locke and his legal counsel before the meeting this evening. Mr. Locke would like to start some internal work to replace laterals within his manufactured home park. This would be in preparation for the northeast extension hook up. Solicitor Parish advised he does not need approval from us to update his internal sewer system. He would like hook up into our system as a bulk user and distribute to the homeowner's. We would sell him EDU's as a bulk user. Solicitor Parish could draft a bulk user agreement. After discussion, Rufus Geesaman made a motion to authorize Solicitor Parish to draft a bulk user agreement with Mr. Locke. Second by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried. Solicitor Parish will also draft a general agreement for bulk users.

b. BCIDA- Solicitor Parish will draft a resolution for the next meeting.

New Business

Setting Fee Levels – Initially the fee was set by putting the fees on the developers which gave a residential credit for the tap in fee. Now missing the lack of new development, we are now forced to set new fee levels. Rufus worked a plan and John expanded it as a detailed projected revenue and expense handout named “Exhibit “D””. It is a new model that gives projections for 30 years. Rufus also advised members we only have 310 users, initially we had 675. The fees were then discussed. Solicitor Parish had emailed a draft of a notice to connect to members. We are required to send the notices out by registered mail or personal delivery for signature. Solicitor Parish requested a motion be made to delete the Board of Supervisor's from the Notice to Connect. Rufus Geesaman made the motion and second by Harold Gruber. All agreed. Motion carried. After discussion, Rufus Geesaman made a motion to a set the tapping fee for all properties in existence on February 28, 2008 to be \$3000.00. Also give the option to pay the fee upfront at a 2% discount rate of \$2600.00 or paid at a monthly rate of \$35.00 over 7 years/86 months. Set the monthly usage rate at \$65.00 per month contingent that Penn Vest and Frank Leber, bond counsel approve. Second by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

The Board is also investigating an option to delay the payments back to Penn Works.

8:08 pm – Executive session was called by Chairman Younker at this time with Solicitor Parish to discuss legal matters. The meeting was reconvened at 8:20 pm.

Harold Gruber made a motion to appoint the Business Manager to send out the notices to connect. Second by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

Rufus Geesaman mentioned that we are required by DEP to keep the pathway clear to the outflow pipe on the Zook property that borders the Bethel WWTP.

Rufus found an Echo string trimmer w/ blade for \$350.00 . David Younker made a motion to purchase a string trimmer at Ebling's not to exceed \$350.00. Harold Gruber seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

The plant operator issued a letter to the Board to consider bringing holding tank waste to the plant to generate some extra income. Engineer's and Solicitor had concerns regarding the concentration of the waste. After discussion it was decided this is not a good idea at this time.

Rufus discussed the need for locks for the gate at the Bethel WWTP. Carl will work with Rufus to secure the locks.

David Younker made a motion to have the connection letters dated 9/28/09 and allow 60 day's to connect. Second by Rufus Geesaman. All agreed. Motion carried.

A phone will be connected at the Bethel plant to take calls after the notices go out.

Authorization of Payment of Bills

Rufus Geesaman made a request to pay the Even Link bill that is due before our next scheduled meeting. Carl Weaver made a motion to approve the payment before the next meeting. Second by Harold Gruber. All agreed. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Members took questions from residents regarding timing and financing of the plants and construction.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. was made by David Younker. Second by Rufus Geesaman.

Respectfully Submitted,
Darlene M.Orendo
Secretary