

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316
JANUARY 7, 2016

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held January 7, 2016 at 103 Locust Street, East Berlin, PA 17316, and was conducted by Chairman Gerald L. Mummert. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7 PM.

Members Present: Gerald L. Mummert; Charles Krall; Ron Weidner; and Harold Lau.

Members Absent: Rick Saxon

Also Present: Solicitor Matt Battersby; Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Deepthi Kalyanam of Buchart-Horn; David Richards; Robbie Teal; John Scrivens and Nathan Boyer.

The East Berlin Borough has re-appointed Harold Lau to serve for a 5 year term on the Authority Board, his term will end 12/31/2020.

Charles Eisenhart has resigned as Treasurer. *A motion was made by Charles Krall to appoint Harold Lau as Treasurer, with a second by Ron Weidner. **Motion carried.***

Minutes: *A motion was made by Ron Weidner to accept the minutes of December 3, 2015 as written; with a second by Harold Lau. **Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.***

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for December 2015, the bills totaled \$37,883.88 from the operational funds. *A motion was made at the December 3, 2015 meeting by Ron Weidner to pay the December 2015 bills for the end of the year; with a second by Charles Krall; with the Chairman's or Treasurer's authorization. **Motion carried.***

Public/Guest Comment: No public comment.

Engineer's Report: Deepthi Kalyanam of Buchart-Horn stated she submitted the Chapter 110 reports for 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and is working on 2015. She is also working on the annual Chapter 94 report.

Deepthi questioned if the Board has made a decision on updating the 2010 Capital Improvement Plan proposal, the cost is \$6,400.00. Buchart-Horn would provide a list of capital improvement projects anticipated in the next 20 years, it will include projects to meet state requirements for groundwater withdrawal application, wastewater treatment plant's ability to meet nutrient levels and PA DEP effluent limits. The water system and sewer system maps will be updated. they will prepare and update estimated proposed project costs; meet with chairman and treasurer of the Board to review projects and establish priority, and prepare and submit 6 bound copies of the Capital Improvement Plan report.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby mentioned he has been releasing liens, people are getting their accounts paid off. Solicitor Battersby mentioned the storm drain at 201 East King Street has plywood and cones on the street which is a hazard. The storm drain is on a state road. The water lateral is lying right near the storm drain and air gets in there and freezes the water line. The plywood helps to keep the line from freezing. There was discussion of rerouting the lateral onto Jacobs Street. John Scrivens and Nathan Boyer will talk to the home owner about this relocation. The consensus of the Board is to fix the problem.

Treasurer's Report: Hanna Furst reported she received a notice about the CD at ACN Bank that matured and would be reinvested unless the Board decided differently. She sent an email to the Board members informing them of the interest rates at the two banks in town. BBT was 1.00% for 18 months or 1.25% for 25 months and ACNB was .800% for 13 months (same as it is now) or 33 month @ 1.25% and received their responses. The CD was closed at ACN Bank for \$39,866.28 and a new one opened at BBT for 18 months @ 1.00% interest. Hanna Furst reported there 46 delinquent accounts for a total of \$4,470.76. This is the lowest it has ever been. There were 7 accounts greater than \$100. Harold Lau present the 2016 Proposed Budget with a rate increase for the water portion starting with the 2nd quarter of this year. He explained the fixed rate of \$24.00 per quarter will remain unchanged; and there is **No Sewer** increase. The rate

increases are as follows: The quarterly gallon usage of 1 to 5,000 gallons will be \$7.00; 5,001 to 10,000 gallons will be \$8.00; 10,001 gallons to 15,000 will be \$9.00, 15,001 to 20,000 gallons will be \$10.00; and over 20,001 gallons will be \$11.00. This information will be sent to the homeowners on a postcard, and the late fees will be restated on the card also. *A motion was made by Charles Krall to accept the 2016 Proposed Budget with the water rate increase with a second by Ron Weidner.* There was a brief discussion on personnel raises. It was determined that there was money added into the budget for salary increases as per the chart the personnel committee present several years ago. *A roll call vote was taken to accept the budget: Charles Krall-yes; Harold Lau-yes; Ron Weidner-yes; and Gerald L. Mummert-yes; Rick Saxon -absent. **Motion carried with all yes' from the members present.***

Secretary's Report: An email was sent to the Board members concerning Earl Brown's leak last February. He was requesting a reduction in the sewer portion of the \$2906.42 bill. He wrote a note explaining the water did not go into the sewer to be treated, (which was verified by John Scrivens) and would like that portion released from the bill and he will pay the \$1142.33, as soon as he is notified of the decision. Three of the five Board members responded that the sewer portion could be eliminated from the bill. Mr. Brown was notified and he paid in full as of 12/28/15.

New Business: None

Old Business: Charles Krall presented a motion to contact James Dougherty of McNees, Wallace & Nurick, LLC. and accept his proposal of exploration of leasing the water and wastewater systems; with a second by Ron Weidner. There was a discussion on the cost and duration of the exploration. The fee is \$10,000 down for finding interested parties that would want to lease the water and sewer system; and \$2,500 a month until all information is acquired. Ron Weidner mention that the deal sounds too good to be true; it's a gamble, but it could be a great opportunity. We will get quotes then we can make a decision. Charles Krall asked the Treasurer, Harold Lau; if the Authority has the \$10,000, to proceed; his response was Yes; but there will be no money going into reserve next year. Harold Lau commented he did not like the proposal and we are looking at a 5% raise in our rates in for the next 3-4 years; which is adding \$2.00 per thousand gallons on the sewer or water rates annually. It was mentioned about protecting the employees; should the Authority system be leased out; it could be written in the contract. Ron Weidner asked if the Board was curious enough to find out if they can get as good of an offer as the other companies did. Charles Krall called for the question. *A roll call vote was taken to accept McNees, Wallace & Nurick, LLC. proposal: Charles Krall-yes; Harold Lau-yes; Ron Weidner-yes; and Gerald L. Mummert-yes; Rick Saxon -absent. **Motion carried with all voting yes' from the members present.***

Operator's Report:

Nathan Boyer –A Kohl Bros. quote was presented by Nathan for installation of a VFD at Well #1, the quote is not to exceed \$10,500; currently the well is pumping over the permitted gallons and Nathan has to manually adjust the flow. Nathan mentioned this is the only well without the VFD. *A motion was made by Ron Weidner to accept Kohl Bros. quote; with a second by Charles Krall. **Motion carried.***

The second quote from Control System 21 for \$17,427.05; this is for 900MHz radio link to monitor the Branch Circle and Park Street lift stations. This system would report back to the SCADA system at the waste water treatment plant on Water Street like the well sites do presently. Charles Krall suggested Deepthi check out pricing and what was done previously with our water systems. *A motion was made to table this proposal until Deepthi check this out by Charles Krall with a second by Harold Lau. **Motion carried to table.***

John Scrivens –Nothing to report; he and Nathan will talk to Jamie Emig about moving his water lateral.

Correspondence: PMAA announced the bidding thresholds; which did not change from last year.

There being no further business, *Ron Weidner made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Harold Lau. **Motion carried.*** Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM. Next meeting will be held February 4, 2016 at 103 Locust Street at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannelore B. Furst, Secretary EBAJA