

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316
October 3, 2013

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held October 3, 2013 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 7PM.

Members Present: Gerald L. Mummert; John O'Brien; David Richards; Robert Clayton and Charles Krall

Absent: Charles Eisenhart

Also Present: Solicitor Matt Battersby; Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn; John Scrivens; and Nathan Boyer.

Minutes: *A motion was made by Charles Krall to accept the minutes of September 5, 2013; with a second by Robert Clayton. Motion carried.*

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for September 2013, which totaled \$34,630.06 from the operational funds. *Robert Clayton moved to pay the bills for September with a second by John O'Brien. Motion carried.*

Public Comment: None

Engineer's Report: Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn reported he has processed the 3rd payment request from Pennvest for the Water Improvement System, and they are working on the well house. Also, for the Pennwood expansion the vault is in and the lines were tested, waiting on the backflow preventer in the individual buildings. He also reported Gerald and he met with a representative of Dollar General regarding the development of the site in Hamilton Township. That meeting consisted mainly about their connection to the water and sewer lines. Bruce received an email response from the representative that their proposed area is 150' from our facilities and their property line and they would not have to connect. They will be putting in an on-lot septic system and drilling their own well. Bruce will respond to their email that they would have to co-ordinate with the township because it is under the township's authority to approve. There was a brief discussion on the cost of the installation of the pipes and hook-up fees the developer would incur.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby stated he has a concern about Trump's Yesteryear Restaurant service lines. He questioned how many accounts were associated with the building. He was told there are two active accounts and one inactive account. The two active accounts are referenced as front and rear, and the inactive is referenced as middle. The middle account has been inactive for at least 12 years. There was a discussion on the upstairs apartment. It was suggested that John Scrivens and the guys check the exact flowing of the water lines.

On the subject of Pennwood, they would be keeping all their accounts according to the agreement. The solicitor is still waiting on the signed agreement. Pennwood still needs to finalize the agreement and the connection fees need to be collected. Inspections were done on the sewer lines. The solicitor was instructed to send a letter to Pennwood Products that the Authority needs the agreement signed.

Treasurer's Report: Hannelore Furst reported in the Treasurer's absence. We have started paying the interest payments for the Water System Improvement Pennvest Loan which is \$532.64 this month. We will be working on the budget. Charles Krall questioned whether the budget would include any long range plans. All Board members were given a copy of the Capital Improvement Plan which includes the water and sewer system goals. Charles Krall stated he has a few ideas for the future.

New Business: Charles Krall suggests planning for the sewer lines that need to be installed between Hamilton Township and the Borough line. He also suggested a GIS data base of all the record keeping, maintenance and planning for the infrastructures of the streets and storm systems for the Borough; and the water and sewer systems of the Authority. Chairman Mummert stated we are still working on replacing the meters and the fire hydrants. It was mentioned to enforce installing a new meter in the garage at the fire company that they use to fill the tanker; so we can verify an accurate water usage. Chairman Mummert requested Charles Krall to check into the pricing of this data base for the budget.

Charles Krall mentioned that the lane lines at the square were incorrectly placed by the Authority contractor when the Authority was working on the sewer plant and the sewer lines in 2009-2010; but PennDot approved them, and the statute of limitations has run out. The Borough has decided to use infrared detection system at the square and will be installing that soon and they expect the Authority to replace the lane lines at the square. *A motion was made by Robert Clayton to pay the expenditure of replacing of the lane lines at the square after the Borough puts in their sensors; with a second by John O'Brien. **Motion carried.***

Old Business: David Richards mentioned his memorandum addressing weight EDU's and setting water and sewer capital charges, and addressing 300 gallons per EDU. David Richards stated it has been before the Board since 2011, and suggested doing something about it now, and that would be the end of it. On the graft, he states there is extraordinary amount of discrimination in rate, where 57% water used is only paying 20% of the capital costs. There is a significant cost subsidy in the rate. Charles Krall stated that we have a recommendation from PA Rural Water that it was not necessary to make a rate change. David Richards stated that 300 gallons per day is too high and what do you use to weight your EDU's for rate setting. The discussion continued on maintaining the rate structure as it is. David Richards reported he wrote to Bill Kramer of PA Rural Water and told him where his analysis was incorrect, and he has not gotten a response. David Richards stated that he would send the Authority members what he sent to Mr. Kramer. *A motion was made by Robert Clayton to stay with present rate system pending an upgrade in the future; with a second by John O'Brien. By roll call vote: Robert Clayton-Yes; John O'Brien-Yes; Gerald L. Mummert-Yes; David Richards-No; Charles Krall-Yes. By majority vote: 4 YES' and 1 NO; the **Motion carried** to stay with the present rate structure.* In addressing the 300 gallons per EDU, that item was tabled. Charles Krall asked David Richards if he was in contact with Reading Twp concerning the 300 EDU's; which he stated no. Chairman Mummert reiterated the Authority's engineer is to communicate with Reading Twp. any information concerning the EDU's; not any of the Board members.

Operator's Report:

Nathan Boyer reported there are 3 areas that need black topped, and he got a quote from Todd Gosnell for \$2580.00. John O'Brien questioned the price compared to the area and requested additional quotes. *A motion was made by Charles Krall to re-quote and get an additional quote and proceed with the least expensive; with a second by Robert Clayton. **Motion carried.***

Nathan mentioned he and Ryan will be taking their operator's test on Nov. 13th.

John Scrivens reported on September 12, 2013 there was a bad storm and there was a lightning strike, all damaged equipment has been replaced and is working. John will get quotes to fix some exposed wiring at the pump house.

Correspondence: None

There being no further business, *John O'Brien made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Robert Clayton. **Motion carried.***

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM. Next meeting will be held November 7, 2013 at 103 Locust Street at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannelore B. Furst,
Secretary EBAJA