

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316
August 7, 2014

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held August 7, 2014 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; Charles Krall; Rick Saxon; Robert Clayton and Ronald Weidner

Also Present: Solicitor Matt Battersby; Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Treasurer, Charles Eisenhart; Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn; and Nathan Boyer

Minutes: *A motion was made by Robert Clayton to accept the minutes of July 3, 2014; with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.*

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for July 2014, the bills totaled \$37,802.35 from the operational funds. *A motion was made by Robert Clayton to pay the bills for July 2014 with a second by Ronald Weidner. Motion carried.*

Public Comment: None

Engineer's Report: Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn reported Well 6 in Hamilton Township is up and running and permitted by DEP. He also reported the Authority has received a conditional approval for the Aquifer Testing Plan for Well 5 and Well 6. Bruce spoke with Teresa Blauch of Buchart Horn, and she suggested the target date for the testing will be the end of September. The Authority needs to follow up with Ken Young about signing off to allow the monitoring on his property. As Mr. Young requested, he did receive a letter from SRBC explaining the purpose of the monitoring. Charles Krall questioned whether the email concerning SRBC's rate would affect our review. Bruce stated SRBC's rates went up 10% and would probably impact our fees.

Bruce also went over the sewer televising and has five recommendations: (1) Have the roots in the sewer between 3rd and Water Streets cut out and treated in the near future; (2) Excavate and repair offset connection east of manhole N15 at 6th Street; (3) Plan and budget for a sewer maintenance contract that includes unit price quotes for various sewer investigation and repair methods for both pipe and manholes. These unit items can then be executed as work orders. The contract could be over a 2 year period with an option to extend it to a third year. Televising of additional areas of the sewer can be incorporated into this contract; (4) Budget for progressively replacing manhole covers having holes; and (5) Prepare a lateral management plan. *No action was taken at this time.*

Charles Krall mentioned he has heard that the federal government is considering charging for the use of ground water. Solicitor Battersby mentioned the Constitution's Fifth Amendment states you cannot take private property without just compensation. Water wells on private property belongs to the property owners. Solicitor Battersby stated they will have a major fight on their hands with the big manufacturers and the major industries.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby reported that he faxed a letter (July 22, 2014) to Mr. Pepinsky (Mr. Coxen's attorney) concerning putting a lien on the Pennwood property; for the sewer connection fee. The notice has a 30 day time limit; starting July 22, 2014. The lien will also incur a 6% interest charge and the lawyer's fees and cost.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Eisenhart reported that the Authority just finished up another quarterly billing with 89 delinquent accounts for the amount of \$35,295.62.

Mr. Eisenhart stated the Authority received the first interest payment bill for the Line of Credit from Susquehanna Bank which was \$58.01. The secretary made the interest payment of \$58.01 and applied \$141.99 to the principle. *After a brief discussion a motion was made by Charles Krall to use \$200 from each Water Capital Expense and Sewer Capital Expense fund monthly to pay the interest payment plus the extra to be applied to the principle of the line of credit; with a second by Robert Clayton. Motion carried.*

Mr. Eisenhart stated the CD will mature on 11/15/14, and the current interest rate is .20%. Mr. Eisenhart suggested thinking about what the Board wants to do with this CD.

New Business: Personnel Manual was emailed to Board members prior to the meeting to check and submit any changes. Chairman Mummert suggested changing the employees anniversary date after the second year of employment to January 1st. *Robert Clayton made the motion to change the anniversary date after the second full year to January 1st; with a second by Rick Saxon.* There was discussion on what this would affect. The vacation and personal days would be prorated. A roll call vote was taken Charles Krall-nay; Rick Saxon-nay; Robert Clayton-yes; Ron Weidner-nay; Gerald Mummert-nay. Roll call tally: 1-Yes; 4-Nay's ***Motion denied. All members signed the 2014 personnel manual as approved.***

We received a phone call from Robert Showalter of Kessler Tank Company concerning inspection on the water tower on Boyer Drive. We also received a proposal with an external inspection with recommendations and color photos at a cost of \$600. Also, received information from Utility Service Group; this is the company Bonneauville Municipal Authority is using. There was no quote. There was a brief discussion on the options that USG has to offer including working or negotiating with the cell phone companies to install a antennae on the water tower. The secretary will check with PA Rural Water if they have any recommendations for water tower inspections.

Old Business: None

Operator's Report:

Nathan Boyer – Nathan reported they have replaced the drain pipe at the reservoir. The logo decals were received and ready to be applied on the new truck.

John Scrivens – Absent

Correspondence:

We received operational permit for Well #6 from PA-DEP.

SRBC sent a Conditional Aquifer Test Plan approval for Wells 1,2,4,& 5.

We also received an email from DEP concerning Sept 9th Groundwater Day.

Charles Krall submitted a letter that was sent to the Borough office, but addressed to Gerald; from Brandi Luckenbaugh stating her concerns about her water and sewer bill. Chairman Mummert read her letter to the Board. She mentioned there was no leak according to the plumber and feels she should not pay the sewer portion. She also mentioned there are 6 people living there, and they are conservative with their water. Chairman Mummert suggested John Scrivens recheck the meter; since a check valve has been installed.

There being no further business, *Ron Weidner made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Robert Clayton.* Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. Next meeting will be held September 4, 2014 at 103 Locust Street at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannelore B. Furst, Secretary EBAJA