

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316
August 2, 2012

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held August 2, 2012 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; Robert Clayton; David Richards; and Charles Krall

Also Present: Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Treasurer, Charles Eisenhart; Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Deepthi Kayanam and Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn; Nathan Boyer; John Scrivens; Rod Walters; and Raymond and Carla Hoffman.

Monthly Meeting Minutes: *A motion was made by Charles Krall to accept the minutes of July 5, 2012; with a second by Robert Clayton. David Richards suggested adding to the correspondence of email from David Richards: after rate increase; and required certification of the budget to the Borough. He also requested to add the email of June 21, 2012; which address' whether the variable charges for water and sewer rates cover the operational expenses as noted in his calculation of 2008 thru 2012. **Motion carried as corrected.***

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for July, which totaled \$44,769.88 from the operational funds. *John O'Brien moved to pay the bills for July; with a second by Robert Clayton. David Richards questioned the Gannett Fleming bill concerning the Rapid Response. **Motion carried.***

Public Comment:

Raymond Hoffman, owner of the East Berlin Car Wash; requested to put in a flow rate meter for the amount of discharged water going into the sewer. Mr. Hoffman cited information concerning the car wash industry that 25% of the water is not going into the sewer. The engineer asked Mr. Hoffman if he was recycling the water and his response was no. Chairman Mummert stated that this would not be allowed, citing our ordinance. Mr. Hoffman also asked about the well he has on his property, and whether he could hook the well back and meter the water before it goes into the sewer and were just trying to save some money. Solicitor Battersby mentioned there was more to it than just hooking up the well. The Authority would have to maintain certification of the well, and comply with Susquehanna River Basin Commission. There was a brief discussion and Chairman Mummert denied both requests. Mr. Hoffman questioned the quality of the water stating the continuing equipment failure because of the black rubbery substance clogging his filters. Mr. Hoffman stated at his other car washes they have tiered rates. Charles Krall suggested putting together information to justify our prices for Mr. Hoffman. David Richards stated it was not likely the Authority would adopt a declining rate because it costs more to increase the level of withdrawal. He also stated York Water's proposal was previously rejected by Borough Council and Hamilton Township. Chairman Mummert thanked Mr. & Mrs. Hoffman and they left the meeting.

Rod Walter of Unified Energy Reliance (where we get our electricity) reported on the six month electric usage rates. He stated electric rates typically shadow natural gas rates which have increased 70% in the last 3 months. He discussed the different rates. Our contract will expire in January 2013, and he stated the best time to buy is between January and May. Charles Krall suggested the Authority members schedule an informational meeting at a later date with Mr. Walter.

Engineer's Report: Bruce Hulshizer of Buchart-Horn showed the schematics of the well houses for the radio control facilities system. This system would have the main control panel located at the WWTP. There was a brief discussion on the length of the project and SRBC reviewing the information. The estimated cost would be \$50,000.00. There was discussion on Well #1 and the level sensor which Kohl Bros. would install. This was already authorized to pay at \$45,000.00. They also discussed Well #5 level sensor for approximately \$7,000.00

and a flow meter at Well #1 for \$4,500.00. It was suggested not to add these to the other contract and use Kohl Bros.; which Bruce will get quotes. It was questioned whether the transmitting between the well houses and radio communications would be operational because of the low points of the buildings. Bruce stated there was transmission during the initial study and during the bidding there will be another transmission test. They would also like a 1 year warranty on functionality and parts. *Robert Clayton made the motion to bid the Environmental Facilities Control System Project 2012-01, through PennBid; with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried.* Bruce mentioned the bid opening would be on September 6, 2012 at 2 PM; which is internet based.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby reported he is working with Jim Dougherty and wants a copy of the application to be sent to Jim Dougherty. He also received communications from Sharon Myers; solicitor for Reading Township Municipal Authority; concerning connecting Conewago Park area to our sewer facility. He also checked out the SRBC and they do not have any regulations concerning charging us for the applications. Solicitor Battersby and the secretary are continuing the collection process for the delinquent accounts.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Eisenhart reported there are 98 delinquent accounts amounting to \$40,000. He also presented to the Board the two quotes for next year's auditor. The current auditor, Smith Elliott Kerns & Co., LLC quoted for 2013 the price of \$6,500. The accounting firm of Rotz Stonesifer gave a quote for three years 2012-\$4,800, 2013-\$4,900, and 2014-\$5,000. A motion was made by Robert Clayton to keep the current auditor; with a second by Charles Krall. **Motion carried** by majority vote.

New Business: Charles Krall asked John Scrivens to visit the car wash and try to determine the reason for the black debris. He would like documented proof of the debris.

Old Business: The secretary reported she has used the Rapid Response system, and there is still a lot to learn. The board discussed the replacement of valves at the center square of the town at an approximate cost of \$20,000 each.

Operator's Report:

Nathan Boyer –Reported on the replacement of the fire hydrant on Harrisburg Street. All fire hydrants are now working. John Scrivens- had nothing to report.

Correspondence:

- Fax from Solicitor Battersby concerning SRBC
- Letter from SRBC
- Email concerning WRAC update and meeting cancellation
- Gannett Fleming invitation for a user group meeting and discussion on Wednesday Oct. 3, 2012

Having no further business, *Robert Clayton made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM. Next meeting will be held September 6, 2012, at 103 Locust Street at 7 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Hannelore B. Furst,
Secretary EBAJA