

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET / PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316

November 7, 2024

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority Board was held November 7, 2024 at 103 Locust St., East Berlin, PA. The meeting was presided over by Chairman Green. Chairman Green opened the meeting at 7pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Members Present: Chairman G. Green, V.C. Weidner, W. Staub, R. Teal, V. Krall

Members Absent

Also Present: Melissa Earp, Treasurer, H. Lau, Solicitor Battersby, Diana Young

Guests:

Agenda: A motion was made by G. Green to amend the agenda to include Budget Talk under the Treasurer's tab. R. Teal made a motion to accept the agenda for October 3, 2024 board meeting as amended, with a second by V. Krall. **Motion carried to accept the agenda as amended.**

Minutes: A motion was made by W. Staub to accept the minutes of October 3, 2024 as written, with a second by R. Weidner. **Motion carried to accept the minutes as written.**

Payment of Bills: All members received a list of payables for OCTOBER 2024, totaling **\$37,801.26** from the Operational funds. A motion was made by R. Teal to pay the September 2024 bills, with a second from W. Staub. Motion carried.

Public / Guest Comment: n/a

Engineer's Report:

- Continued work on planning and permitting documents for WWTP Expansion and Sanitary Sewer Expansion Project. Will send the plans to the board members for review, to assure they follow what is desired.
- BH developed a list of recommended analysis for the two wells affected by PFAS. The list should be sent to the lab for price quotes. Will consider recent data for some of the parameters if it exists.

Solicitor's Report:

- Chairman Green signed to extend the grant deadlines.
- The situation on Schoolhouse Lane still remains open.

Treasurer's Report:

- Open balance: \$61,609.95
- Presented a proposed budget for 2025 with a combined deficit of \$7402.00 for operating expenses. Capital Expenditures to include: installation of four new fire hydrants, fix wall at Well #2, software upgrade for reading the meters, replace 2" galvanized waterline on Fifth Street, replace the rubber rood at Well #4, contribute dollars toward the generator, Fix sewer main that settled by the manhole at Sixth and West King Streets, and replacement of office printers. The treasurer proposed several options for meeting the deficit, including raising rates, raising capital fees, and to cease spending money. Due to the expensive service line inventory/replacement project mandated by the Federal Government, and the PFOS/PFAS problems that will require an expensive filtration system, the treasurer asks the board to consider selling the water portion of the Authority to a for-profit outfit. Discussion tabled until the December meeting.

Secretary's Report:

- Service Line Inventory letters were sent to customers who have unidentified water pipes. Customers are advised to make an appointment to determine the pipe material. The service line inventory is to be updated regularly and resubmitted to the PADEP each July until all lead and galvanized pipes have been identified and replaced.
- Was advised by a water specialist at the PA DEP that there are grants for service line replacements. Solicitor Battersby suggested the authority reach out to the state and federal congressmen that serve this district to find more information.

Unfinished Business:

- Engineer D. Young advised that the PFOS/PFAS that are currently found in Wells #1 and #2 have been banned for much time, so feels the contamination is not coming from outdoor burning. It was brought up that, before dumping regulations of the 1970's, the town dump was located above the current site of Well #2. D. Young also noted that the GenX chemicals that replaced the PFOS/PFAS are also no longer considered environmentally friendly.
- Office Space. Chairman and Secretary looked at the available office space at the old Lau's building, but determined it was not a contender.
- Notification System – Chairman Green is looking into being added to the county system.

New Business:

Operator's Report:

- Replaced LMI chemical feed pump at Well #2.
- Repaired a water leak on galvanized service line at 312 Abbottstown St.
- Drought Watch issued by the governor's office.
- Notification of voluntary water conservation posted on borough sign board, website, and the mayor was informed to add to her social media page.
- Brough Hill water tower will need to be inspected by the next DEP inspection in 2026. AWWA Standard M42 recommends that storage tanks are cleaned and inspected no less than once every five years.

Correspondence: Thank you note from Trinity Lutheran Church for adjusting the sewer portion of the bill due to landscape watering.

Executive Session: n/a

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by R. Wiedner and a second by V. Krall. **Motion carried.** Meeting was adjourned by Chairman Green at 7:51 p.m.

The next monthly board meeting is scheduled to be held **December 5, 2024** at 103 Locust Street at 7:00 p.m.