

EAST BERLIN AREA JOINT AUTHORITY
103 LOCUST STREET, PO BOX 37
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316
June 4, 2015

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority was held June 4, 2015 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; Ronald Weidner and Charles Krall

Members Absent: Rick Saxon; Robert Clayton

Also Present: Solicitor Matt Battersby; Secretary, Hannelore Furst; Treasurer, Charles Eisenhart; Nathan Boyer and John Scrivens.

Chairman Mummert mentioned he spoke with Robert Clayton, who had an accident and is in the hospital; and it will be several months until he will be well enough to go home.

Minutes: A motion was made by Charles Krall to accept the minutes of April 2, 2015; with a second by Ron Weidner.

Motion carried to accept the minutes as written. (May 7, 2015 meeting was cancelled due to lack of business.)

Payment of Bills: All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for April 2015, the bills totaled \$30,857.62 from the operational funds. A motion was made by Ron Weidner to pay the bills for April 2015 with a second by Charles Krall. **Motion carried.**

All members received a copy of the bills and receipts for May 2015, the bills totaled \$22,222.87 from the operational funds. A motion was made by Charles Krall to pay the bills for May 2015 with a second by Ron Weidner.

Motion carried.

Chairman Mummert pointed out a typographical error in the March summary of accounts where the amount was incorrectly listed and has been corrected.

Public Comment: None

Engineer's Report: None-Deepthi Kalyanam of Buchart-Horn is in India on vacation. Chairman Mummert read the progress report.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby reported on the liens that are being filed. He was given two packets of information; one is for a sheriff sale and the other is a marshal sale. The marshal sale is for \$146,850.02 on the Jill Eastwood's property at 105 6th Street, our amount owed to the Authority is \$1,274.95; and the sheriff sale is for \$136,113.08 on the Stacey Smith/Cain Rodenberry property at 530 South Avenue and she owes the Authority is \$860.26. Solicitor Battersby explained that the marshal sale will probably get all proceeds from the sale, because they are different than sheriff sales. So we may not get any money. The Board discussed liens and how long to hold them until the next step. The next step would be a writ of execution, and you would put it up for sale. This step is expensive, so the resident would have to owe a considerable amount to do this. Solicitor Battersby explained the procedure. Solicitor Battersby suggested the lien procedure should be expressed in the matter of time; such as four (4) quarterly billings. (Side note: 5 months after the initial bill and past due letters are sent out, a lien is put on the property, if the past due letters are ignored, then the account is sent to the magistrate, a hearing is set up; most accounts are paid once they get the district magistrate notice for a hearing, unless they miss the hearing and don't pay, or they never pick up the registered letter then we pay another fee for the constable to serve the notice, which then another hearing is set up; if they don't show then we are awarded the judgment; we then we have to wait 30 days to obtain the magistrates signature before the account can be filed at the courthouse for a lien.) There was a lengthy discussion as what to do after the lien is placed on the property. It was suggested a (30) thirty day notice that the water will be shut off on a certain day, then (20) days later another letter stating they have 10 days to pay; then a 48 hour notice and then you shut the water off if it is not paid. It was stated that it would be cheaper to shut the water off than go through the

process of a sheriff sale. To sum it up, Charles Krall stated that one quarter after the lien (which should be the 4th quarter of delinquency) the water will be shut off.

Chairman Mummert brought to the Board's attention two accounts that should be discussed. Earl Brown's account is delinquent, the Authority made arrangements with Mr. Brown previously, and he has not kept up his end of the agreement. Chairman Mummert also mentioned Skip Coxen (Pennwood Products) that there is a lien and nothing is being done. It was suggested to shut the water off. Charles Krall reminded Chairman Mummert that we are trying to get a procedure established. A policy has been established

Charles Krall made the motion to execute the lien 1 quarter after the district justice decision; then 1 quarter after the lien is filed on record the water is shut off (by water shut off procedure), with a second by Ron Weidner.

Motion carried.

There was more discussion on sending the two accounts a thirty day notice that their water will be shut off. The Board was reminded that Mr. Brown does not have a lien on his property yet. The office will start the process for Mr. Brown's lien and water shut off for Pennwood Products.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Eisenhart reported at the end of this collection period there were 36 delinquent accounts for the a total of \$16,110.27. He also reported that the Pennvest Water Project is now closed.

Secretary's Report: Hanna Furst reported everything went fairly well in the office while she was gone. There were a few glitches but with texting and texting pictures she was able to help Debbie complete some complicated issues.

Chairman Mummert read a letter from Ms. Shearer thanking the Board for the opportunity to be the temporary assistant for Hanna, while she was on vacation; and complimenting Ms. Furst as being a valuable employee to EBAJA.

New Business: None

Old Business: Chairman Mummert mentioned the need to start checking again, homes for sump pump and drain spouts that are tied to the sewer system. The guys have been doing some while they are changing out meters.

Operator's Report:

Nathan Boyer – They have been flushing the fire hydrants, the one near 112 Abbottstown Street needs fixed. Nathan has been recording the amount of water they are flushing. There was a brief discussion on the fire hydrants belonging to the Borough. Ron Weidner mention the hydrants in Hamilton Twp belong to Hamilton Twp and York Water charges them per hydrant, per month. Abbottstown Borough also owns their hydrants and pays York Water for the water per month.

John Scrivens – John mentioned Spring Grove Borough has a lateral camera they would like to sell for \$500.00; and asked the Board if they would be interested in buying. *On a motion by Charles Krall and a second by Ron Weidner the Board decided to purchase the used lateral camera for \$500.00. Motion carried.*

Correspondence: The letter from Debbie Shearer that Chairman Mummert read earlier.

There being no further business, *Ron Weidner made a motion to adjourn the meeting; with a second by Charles Krall. Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM. Next meeting will be held July 2, 2015 at 103 Locust Street at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Hannelore B. Furst, Secretary EBAJA