

Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 13, 2016
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
1108 FREAS AVENUE
BERWICK, PA 18603

The monthly scheduled and advertised meeting of the Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority (BAJSA) was called to order by Chairman James Seeley at 6:00 pm. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was presented.

Roll call was taken and members in attendance were as follows: Chairman Jim Seeley, Secretary Scott Bower, Asst. Treasurer Benjamin Mike, Treasurer George Welliver, 2nd Assistant Treasurer Gary Pinterich, Asst. Pres Pro Tem Joseph Siecko, Vice Chairman Jimmy Morris and Assistant Secretary Ernie Ashbridge. Also in attendance were: Erin Threet from HRG, Engineer Dennis Peters, Authority Manager Gloria Bobersky Solicitor Anthony McDonald, Allan Fish. Susan Schwartz from Press Enterprise, Kathryn Chaudry from West Front Street, Mary Belinsky from First Avenue, Bill Ferraro from Freas Avenue and Gordan Newcomer present from the public.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Belinsky was here to express concern about BAJSA charging a fee to use a credit card to pay her bill. Manager explained that we use Paypal as our service and they charge the fees to use the service.

Ms. Chaudry was here concerning her 811 Orange Street property. This property was posted for water shut off March 18, 2016. She feels we should have a better way of getting people to pay their bill. Solicitor McDonald explained properties are posted with plenty of notice to pay.

Joe Siecko was asking for reimbursement for charges at the Knapp Lodge for main line blockage in the amount of \$135.00 for Roto Rooter being called. Motion made by Gary Pinterich to reimburse Knapp Lodge. 2nd by George Welliver. Roll call vote was taken and was as follows:

E. Ashbridge	-	Yes
B. Mike	-	Yes
S. Bower	-	Yes
J. Seeley	-	Yes
J. Morris	-	Yes
G. Pinterich	-	Yes
G. Welliver	-	Yes

Joe Siecko abstained. Motion passed.

Mr. Newcomer was present to ask for forgiveness for properties located at 1149 Chestnut Street and 1323 Pine Street. He is planning on possibly purchasing these properties. Motion made by George Welliver to not exonerate any of the balance on these properties to set president. 2nd by Gary Pinterich. Roll call vote was taken and was as follows:

E. Ashbridge	-	Yes
B. Mike	-	Yes
S. Bower	-	No
J. Siecko	-	Yes
J. Seeley	-	Yes
J. Morris	-	Yes
G. Pinterich	-	Yes
G. Welliver	-	Yes

Motion made by Ben Mike to waive interest and penalties on properties located at 1149 Chestnut and 1323 Pine Street contingent upon Mr. Newcomer purchasing properties. 2nd by Gary Pinterich. Roll call vote was taken and was as follows:

E. Ashbridge	-	Yes
B. Mike	-	Yes
S. Bower	-	Yes
J. Siecko	-	Yes
J. Seeley	-	Yes
J. Morris	-	Yes
G. Pinterich	-	No
G. Welliver	-	Yes

Motion passed.

Bill Ferraro from Freas Avenue discussed his opinions of the recent downsizing of employees at our Sewer plant. Mr. Ferraro felt the laying off of employees was wrong.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Ben Mike to approve the meeting minutes of March 9, 2016. 2nd by Jimmy Morris. All in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion made by George Welliver to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$692,676.81. 2nd by Ben Mike. Roll call vote was taken and was as follows:

E. Ashbridge	-	Yes
B. Mike	-	Yes
S. Bower	-	Yes
J. Siecko	-	Yes
J. Seeley	-	Yes
J. Morris	-	Yes
G. Pinterich	-	Yes
G. Welliver	-	Yes

All in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

ENGINEER – HRG

Reviewed the report regarding the Preliminary Design phase for the blower upgrade project, and is submitting the Part II Permit Application to DEP within the next few weeks.

SOLICITOR – ANTHONY McDONALD

Tony McDonald discussed business properties in South Centre Township possibly hooking to our sewer system.

ENGINEER – PETERS

Dennis Peters reviewed the status of the North of Front Street project being completed by Doli Construction. Doli is about 80% complete with the project.

Dennis Peters reviewed that Wise Foods should be on Pa One call and they are not. Dennis is sending a letter.

SUPERINTENDENT

Allan Fish reviewed the DMR looks good.

MANAGER

Gloria Bobersky reviewed RBC Capital Markets spreadsheet regarding the possibility of a new bond series for the two bank notes and East of Market Street PennVest for a net savings of \$276,000.00 if the board has any interest.

Motion made by Gary Pinterich to move forward with the bond. 2nd by Ernie Ashbridge. All in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

The 2015 Audit is complete.

Manager discussed there is a workers claim that was filed. Employee is still currently working.

Motion made by Ben Mike to contact Mr. Havers concerning the empty lot at 728 LaSalle Street, and let him know BAJSA will accept whatever he sells it for with minimum of \$5,000.00 as payment in full and remove the lien. Roll call vote was taken and was as follows:

- E. Ashbridge - No
- B. Mike - Yes
- S. Bower - Yes
- J. Siecko - Yes
- J. Seeley - Yes
- J. Morris - Yes
- G. Pinterich - Yes
- G. Welliver - No

Motion passes 5-2.

Motion made by Ben Mike to deny Paul Stulb's request for not being charged penalties on the property at 1427 Third Avenue for a period of one year to pay a large which was recently back billed for sewer. 2nd by Jimmy Morris. All in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Ernie Ashbridge to install 3 new cameras at the Sewer plant. 2nd by Jimmy Morris. All in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by George Welliver to approve pay Application #2 for Doli in the amount of \$398,206.80. 2nd by Jimmy Morris. All in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by George Welliver to approve General release and Settlement agreement with the exception of two pay checks. The amounts for each employee is as follows: Kenneth Aten \$26,061.20, Robert Ashelman \$24,392.84, Dan Cook \$17,842.57 and Jeffrey Meade \$14,945.84 with a total of \$83,242.45. 2nd by Joe Siecko. Roll call vote was taken and was as follows:

E. Ashbridge	-	Yes
B. Mike	-	Yes
S. Bower	-	Yes
J. Siecko	-	Yes
J. Seeley	-	Yes
J. Morris	-	Yes
G. Pinterich	-	Yes
G. Welliver	-	Yes

All in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Jimmy Morris to adjourn. 2nd by George Welliver. All in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled BAJSA meeting will be held on Wednesday May 11, 2016 at 6:00 pm.