

BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of Bern Township Municipal Authority

August 24, 2022

ATTENDEES: Chuck Koch, Chairman; Jay Field, Treasurer; Fred Gurman, Asst. Treasurer; Irene Reed, Secretary; Danielle Pappas, Asst. Secretary; Solicitor, Dan Becker, Kozloff Stoudt; Engineer, Kevin Conrad, SSM Group.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Koch at 11:00 AM.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS: Financial discussion on BTMA Investments: Discuss new pump Stations that will replace flow meters.

Ms. Reed made a motion to approve the Agenda Amendments. Seconded by Mr. Gurman. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Bensinger representing the Penske Project requested an increase from 10 EDU's to 20 EDU's for their proposed office building. Mr. Conrad said the BTMA has enough to cover that increase.

Mr. Becker confirmed it was fine to proceed with the project as Mr. Bensinger will send the plans over to Spotts, Stevens & McCoy and Mr. Becker will speak with David DeLuce about the transfer of ownership for the pump station which is now owned by Penn State Health. Mr. DeLuce will be asked for all documents and inspection reports from the pump station before BTMA decides to take over the ownership.

SSM is already working on looking at the BTMA rate schedule for water and sewer which will include the Hospital's rate for sewer.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 24TH, 2022 MEETING MINUTES: Ms. Reed made a motion to approve the monthly minutes of the July 27th, 2022 Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Field. Mr. Koch Abstained. Motion Carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Field presented the water bill list for August in the amount of \$46,281.04 consisting of \$30,339.01 to WBWA; and \$11,630.48 to RAWA.

Mr. Field made a motion to pay the August water bills as presented. Seconded by Ms. Reed. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Mr. Koch, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Mr. Field presented the sewer bill list for August in the amount of \$68,405.29 consisting of \$2,810.33 to GenServe/DynaTech for annual maintenance; \$1762.00 to LB Water for chemicals; \$45,555.05 to RRAA for quarterly T&T; \$9202.50 to LBA for the quarterly T&T; \$3,396.15 to SSM of which \$2,355.75 will be reimbursed by developers.

Mr. Field made a motion to pay the August sewer bills as presented. Seconded by Ms. Reed. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Koch, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Mr. Field proposed looking into brokered CD's at Mid-Penn Bank. Mr. Field will continue to look at them for the month of September. He recommended purchasing two CD's at a 3% interest rate, possibly in September. More discussion to come during next month's meeting.

PROJECT COMMITTEE: None.

PERSONNEL: None.

ENGINEER: Miller Contract – Mr. Conrad presented the new price increases for 2023 for the annual pump station maintenance contract. The price increase is 2% over last year's increase of 1%.

Mr. Field made a motion to stay with Miller for 2023 and pay the 2% price increase. Seconded by Ms. Pappas.
VOTE: Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Mr. Koch, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Water Main Break – The emergency application sent to PENNDOT is still being processed. More information is needed to complete the report. Mr. Conrad forwarded the necessary information to Jason to complete it.

Hartman South – Costco is interested in connecting to Hartman South, however, they need more electricity and it costs around \$1.2 million to bring over a line for it.

Manhole Inspection on County Property – SSM surveyors looked through the records for an easement for Easy Does It but nothing was found that BTMA ever took over the dedication for the lines. BTMA will need to contact Easy Does It and Berks County to decide about who will pay for the repairs before BMTA decides if they will take over the dedication. Televising costing around \$6,000.00 was suggested once ownership is established.

G&T – G&T was sent a letter from Daryl Jenkins with copies of all the emails concerning the size of the meter. It was mentioned that G&T could install a 6” or 8” meter but their response was a 12 in meter was still needed. Mr. Koch suggested that we bill for the 3” meter that was installed along with the 12” meter at the pit near their building, and bill the 12” meter as a fire protection meter of around \$1,000.00 yearly in February.

Ms. Reed made a motion to change 12” meter to \$1,000.00 for yearly fire protection. Seconded by Mr. Koch.
VOTE: Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Koch, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Ms. Reed made a motion to change G&T’s monthly bill from a 12” meter to a 3” meter. Seconded by Mr. Field.
VOTE: Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Koch, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT: LBA Aeration Project – LBA received a grant of \$400,000.00 plus. Mr. Becker will ask Paul Essig how the growth in Ontelaunee will impact our contractual agreement percentage; and how the grant money will effect BTMA share of cost for the aeration upgrade. The financial impact for BTMA to sell will be discussed further.

FAA Pump Station – The FAA required one of two options in order to the easement approved for the pump station on the airport property. The FAA wants a land release process that would require an environmental impact study or a long term lease. Mr. Becker suggested to move in the direction with a land lease for 29 years and 11 months at a minimal rate. It was decided to proceed with Mr. Becker’s suggestion and get a contract drawn up.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS – Enersys – New monthly EDU rate was proposed to be changed from \$571.65 a month to \$588.28 a month for 2022/2023, calculated using the 2021 audit.

Ms. Reed made a motion to accept the new rate of \$588.28 a month for Enersys. Seconded by Mr. Koch.
VOTE: Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Koch, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Messer Gas Co – Our fire hydrant was hit and knocked off its base at Heyco Metals, resulting in significant damage. The hydrant will need to be dug up and Empire will need to be contacted for the work. The driver ended up leaving before he could be asked about it, so we are waiting to hear back from their company before opening an insurance claim.

Ms. Reed made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:49 PM. Seconded by Mr. Koch. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Irene Reed
Secretary