

BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting of Bern Township Municipal Authority

July 27th, 2022

ATTENDEES: Jay Field, Treasurer; Fred Gurman, Asst. Treasurer; Irene Reed, Secretary; Danielle Pappas, Asst. Secretary; Solicitor, Joan London, Kozloff Stoudt; Engineer, Kevin Conrad, SSM Group.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Reed at 11:00 AM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MINUTES OF JUNE 22ND, 2022 MEETING MINUTES: Mr. Field made a motion to approve the monthly minutes of the June 22nd, 2022 Meeting. Seconded by Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Field presented the water bill list for July in the amount of \$46,918.67 consisting of \$27,450.28 to WBWA; \$7,322.22 to RAWA; and \$5,388.40 to Empire Services for the repair on the water main break on 183; \$2,115.00 to RKL for the final audit payment; and \$1,586.50 to SSM.

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

Mr. Field presented the sewer bill list for July in the amount of \$56,305.17 consisting of \$37,370.32 to the City of Reading for the quarterly T&T; and \$5,121.86 to SSM of which \$2,175.01 will be reimbursed by developers: and \$4,935.00 to RKL for the final audit payment.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE: On Oct. 22nd the water note interest rate with Tompkins will increase to 67% of prime up to a maximum rate of 5.25%. BTMA owes \$104,128.96 and the Water Govt. Savings account has a balance of \$984,754.

Mr. Field recommended paying off the water note, the only fee involved is \$84 to remove the lien from BTMA customer payments.

Mr. Field made a motion to pay off the loan as of July 28th for \$104,128.96. Seconded by Ms. Pappas. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

PROJECT COMMITTEE: None.

PERSONNEL: None.

ENGINEER: Pump Station Design – Nov. 15th is when the state grant awards will be announced. This pushes the start of the Pump Station construction back. The RRAA will be informed of the timing of the grant award.

Water Main Break – SSM Engineer is updating the application with the info PENNDOT requested.

Miller Contract – Mike Pointer will be getting some pricing together for the August meeting. The Engineer updated Mike that the 1st year's tasks would be the same as the prior contract due to the delay in the grant awards.

Hartman South – The Planning Module is complete but BTMA cannot sign off on it since it is not BTMA's system. BTMA cannot issue a Will Serve Letter either for the same reason. Penn State Health would be the entity to sign the Planning Module and Will Serve Letter since the sewer system belongs to them.

The developer needs 10 EDU's. BTMA can issue a Will Serve Letter for water.

Sewer Manholes along County Road – an inspection of the manholes in the area of Hill Road and County Road were found to have 2 manholes in the grassy area near the intersection. Both manholes are not bolted down and are part of the Easy Does It sewer system, which in total has 10 manholes and 320 ft. of sewer main. There is a note on the Easy Does It plans that the Utility Easement would be dedicated to the BTMA's system. The easement is on County property. The easement paperwork has not been located as of the meeting.

If this sewer main is owned by BTMA the manholes should be inspected by Miller, as well as, be televised and cleaned. They were last televised over 22 years ago, there is 1,530 lf. of 8" PVC sewer main. The cost for Mr. Rehab would be \$6,685.

There was one manhole in a grassy area where the rain water collects, it is flush with the surface and bolted down. If BTMA wants to raise it, the cost would be \$5000.

Ms. Pappas made a motion to have the Engineer determine if the sewer lines belong to BTMA. Seconded by Mr. Gurman. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Ms. Pappas made a motion to have the lines televised and cleaned for the quote of \$6,685 if it is found that BTMA does own the sewer main and manholes. Seconded by Mr. Field. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

G&T Industries – The administration saw the rates for the 12 in. line and would like to discuss the rates for a smaller line. The BTMA Engineer will be discussing this with Mr. Jenkins. G&T is saying that they were forced to put a 12 in. meter in the pit. Their ins. co/architect suggested the 12 in. line and they went along with it.

WBWA – They need approval for switching BTMA customers to RAWA water while WBWA does a flow test to determine how much flow can be provided by RAWA across the BTMA system. Future work will be done on the pipes in the fall in the WBWA system and the water will be switched over again at that time.

WBWA will reimburse the cost of RAWA water to conduct the flow test.

Mr. Gurman made a motion to allow WBWA to conduct the flow test at the prison and let WBWA switch the water line to RAWA. Seconded by Mr. Field. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: LBA Aeration Project – With Mr. Becker on vacation during this meeting, more discussion will be needed at next month's meeting concerning the LBA's offer to buy the Stonehedge sewer mains.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS – G&T's request for a relief of the sewer bill from the fire flow test and the watering of the new plants. Since there is no usage history, the Engineer calculated 52,650 gallons for the three month period if they used all of their 3 EDU's maximum usage.

Mr. Gurman made a motion to give credit to the sewer bill valued at the difference between the actual meter read and the maximum that could have been used based on their bought EDU's. Seconded by Mr. Field. **VOTE:** Yes – Mr. Field, Mr. Gurman, Ms. Reed, Ms. Pappas. Motion Carried.

Ms. Pappas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 AM. Seconded by Mr. Gurman. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Irene Reed
Secretary