

minutes

Rimersburg Borough Municipal Authority Meeting

Date | time Jan. 3, 2018 | 6:00 p.m. | Meeting called to order by Regularly Scheduled

In Attendance

Authority members: Mike Graham, Rebecca Bliss, Patty Alworth, Gary Fowler, Greg Haws, Vacancy 1, Vacancy 2

Also Present: Roger Crick, Rimersburg Boro. Council; Kyle Fritz, P. E. & Kyle Schwabenbauer, P. E./ EADS Group

Call to Order

The Jan. 3, 2018 Re-Organizational meeting of the Rimersburg Borough Municipal Authority was called to order by Chairman, Mike Graham, at 6:01 p.m. as he was the general consensus choice of those present to run the meeting.

Mike asked for nominations for Chair. Patty nominated Mike and he was elected Chairman by unanimous vote.

Mike nominated Greg Haws as Vice Chair and he was elected so by unanimous vote.

Mike nominated Patty for Secretary and his nomination received a unanimous vote in favor.

Patty nominated Becky for Treasurer. Becky was elected Treasurer with a unanimous vote.

General consensus was in favor of keeping Borough Secretary as Recording Secretary for the Municipal Authority.

The next order of business was to decide the monthly meeting schedule. General consensus was to keep the meetings on the first Wed. of each month. It was noted that July 4, 2018 is the first Wed. Therefore, Patty proposed Wed., July 11, 2018 and general consensus was in agreement.

Persons to Be Heard

None.

Approval of Minutes

The Dec. 6, 2017 minutes were read and approved by a motion from Patty, second by Greg, and a unanimous vote.

Financial

All Authority and Borough bank account balances were provided as well as Toby debt service loan balances. The Borough Secretary pointed out the transfers that Rimersburg Borough Council decided to make from their regular checking accounts to the corresponding Business Insured Money Funds. Rimersburg Borough Council also decided, per their 2018 Budget to transfer \$30,000 from the Borough Water checking account to the Rimersburg Borough Municipal Authority. Roger recommended checking with the solicitor as to whether this money is required to be used for water expenses only or can be used for either water or sewer. After some discussion, general consensus was to deposit the funds into the Northwest Authority checking.

Mike asked if the CD renewal date was known and what the interest rate is currently. That information was unknown, but Patty thought the CD might be up for renewal Feb. 1, 2018.

The bill for 2018 dues of \$200.00 for the PA Municipal Authority was presented for payment. Patty made a motion to pay this bill, seconded by Greg, and approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Regarding sewer connection to the Mike Pollock property, Kyle F./EADS visited the site with Frank/ Boro. Maint. and Eric Ciccirelli, Mike Pollock's contractor, and confirmed that both laterals are located on the one parcel. Kyle did not feel that this properly served the other parcel and this is against Authority policy as well. This also means that an upflush toilet will not fix the issue. Kyle F. proposed providing service via another route using gravity that had been previously discussed and provided a drawing. The idea had been abandoned as it was thought a small stream crossing the path was an issue. Kyle S. explained why this stream does not qualify for DEP waterway concerns. A very rough estimate to accomplish this correction is \$5,000-\$10,000. Members expressed concern over the misplacement of the lateral to the second property during the Toby project. General consensus was in favor of

sending the engineer to the Acombs, property owners of 8982 Roue 68, to obtain an easement for the Authority through their gravel driveway for the Pollock sewer line. He is also permitted to work directly with the solicitor on this issue. Frank and the engineer both agreed that the construction should be hired out when the time comes as the layout of the land was unique and Frank's crew has a full schedule. Another option using a grinder pump was shown to be more costly and less desirable.

Frank also proposed an exception for properties in the state of Corey King's on West Back Street. Where this property is located in relation to sewer mains does not provide preferable options for sewer upgrade for either the property owner or the Authority. He asked that this property be given an exception and keep notes with the account until the sewer main line issue is corrected for those in the same situation.

There was no response from the solicitor to Patty's 12/14/2017 and Borough Secretary's 01/03/2018 emails regarding questions on the lease agreement revision.

The engineers are finishing the grinder pump section of the Water and Sewer Rules & Regulations revision using information from another municipality; and adding specific language regarding requirements to televise, SDR35 or schedule 40 only, etc. The Authority intends to adopt these resolutions 2-2018 and 3-2018 at the next meeting, Feb. 7, 2018.

Projects

Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Project:

The Final Report of the Feasibility Study for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Project was presented to the Authority by Kyle Fritz and Kyle Schwabenbauer of The EADS Group. The total was \$6,049,000. Mike asked how the total came to be just over \$6,000,000 when at the beginning, \$2.5-3,000,000 was thought to be realistic. Kyle F. walked through the outline and pointed out the high cost items. The project does not include fees for working with Rails to Trails, "property acquisition, access road, schedule, funding, etc." Calculations regarding the sludge press show that it will likely pay itself off within ten years.

The maximum PennVest project application is \$10,000,000. Kyle thought it wise to apply for the maximum and scale back as necessary after PennVest made its determination of financial assistance. Another piece to bring the project to the \$10,000,000 amount was 15,000-20,000 feet of sewer line focusing on non-served Borough residents and West side of Main St. root issues. The "scope of work and cost estimate" for this collection system portion are to be "finalized in the future."

The entire project cost "will evolve and be updated until the design is finalized." Pieces can be added and removed as bids are received. "The next steps are to finalize the scope, enter into agreements, and schedule a planning consultation" with PennVest. PennVest is already interested in meeting with Authority members now. (Quoted items come directly from the engineers' monthly report and all items on the report were discussed during the meeting.)

Kyle will email copies of the above study to the Authority. General consensus was that the Authority would like to proceed with application for the PennVest project maximum. Kyle will help set up the planning consultation with PennVest.

Kyle read the proposed letter to Madison Township notifying them that Rimersburg is scheduled to complete sewage planning with DEP in 2018 (Act 537). It recommends that Madison complete their sewage planning along with Rimersburg as it could potentially save costs. It also states that DEP does not require that Madison do so. General consensus was to put Kyle's draft on Authority letterhead and mail to Madison. Kyle will email the draft in Word format.

Main Street Water Supply and Fire Safety Improvement Project (DCED Grant):

Kyle and Kyle met with Frank McNaughton on site to review water lines along Main St. The proposed project for this grant will install 3,500 feet of 8" main line on the east side of Main Street and cost approximately \$496,126.40. The requested grant portion will be \$421,707.44 with local match of \$74,418.96. "Project costs do not include permits, inspection, or mapping" as these are ineligible costs. This is estimated at \$15,000 or so. There is also a \$100 application fee, required public notice, and a resolution to adopt to move forward. Patty made a motion to proceed, seconded by Becky, and a unanimous vote approved her motion. Upon solicitor review, the Authority will adopt Resolution 1-2018 at the next meeting on Feb. 7, 2018 to apply for DCED grant funds to complete the Main Street Water Supply and Fire Safety Improvement Project.

Correspondence

None

New Business

The 90-180 day window is approaching in which Rimersburg may notify Waste Management that it will terminate the agreement between them. The renewal date is 06/22/2018. Frank added that a pick up of the existing dumpster would be required. It is partially full. General consensus was in favor of asking the solicitor to review the agreement and write the letter to Waste Management asking for pick up of the partially filled dumpster and terminating the agreement. The basis is that their services are no longer required since we haul out liquid sludge, not solid.

Mike informed the Authority that he spoke with Keith Gabage/ PA American Water about linking the two systems together and several different options as follows: 1.) for PA American to supply bulk water to entire Rimersburg System, 2.) for PA American to buy Toby under Act 12 and supply bulk water to Rimersburg, 3.) for PA American to just buy Toby under Act 12 and Rimersburg would continue as is getting water from East Brady. This would mean a valve would be in place, however, if there was ever a time emergency supply was needed, could be obtained from PA American water as alternative source. If Rimersburg is interested in pursuing any of these options, PA American Water needs a letter stating so to proceed. Initial rates given to Mike were \$1200/month flat rate for the bulk meter and \$7.00-\$9.80/ each 1,000 gallons consumption. East Brady is charging us \$3.25/1,000 gallons. This shows rates to be unappealing for the Rimersburg service area with the possible exception of number 3. This was discussed with both hopes and concerns for Toby and Rimersburg areas. Perhaps Toby would find their rates lowered overall if this was done. Perhaps they would not be, however, and either way, Rimersburg would lose the revenue gained from the Toby area. Rimersburg would also not have to maintain that part of the system in man hours and materials. Patty pointed out that discussion with them does not cost anything nor obligate anyone. Greg made the suggestion to give Toby the information and allow them to contact PA American Water and talk with them if they are interested. Roger suggested a letter to Toby communicating that, placing the responsibility on them to choose whether or not to research it. This would take the load off of Rimersburg entirely except to decide whether or not to take any offer made. The subject was tabled until the next meeting Feb. 7, 2018.

Adjournment

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018 | 6:00 p.m., is the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Rimersburg Borough Municipal Authority at the Rimersburg Borough Building.

Patty motioned for adjournment and Becky seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana L. Solida
Borough Secretary