

MOUNT PENN BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

January 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the Mount Penn Borough Municipal Authority was held on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the John A. Becker Municipal Building, 200 North 25th Street, Reading, PA 19606, also via Zoom Video Conferencing due to COVID19 social distancing mandates.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas Smith. The following Board members were present:

Thomas Smith, Chair
Joseph Boyle, Vice Chairman
Alfred Worrall, Treasurer
Kelly Dudash, Asst. Treasurer, Asst. Secretary
Thomas Staron, Secretary- Absent

Also present were the following:

Christeena Hauck, Support Specialist
Stephen Davis, Support Specialist
Matt Hauck, Water System Foreman
Steve Riley, Entech Engineering
Mark Merolla, Solicitor
Ann Sellers

Joe Boyle made the motion to reappoint the board members to their current positions for 2021:

Thomas Smith-Chairman
Joseph Boyle-Vice Chairman
Alfred Worrall-Treasurer
Kelly Dudash-Assistant Treasurer, Assistant Secretary
Thomas Staron-Secretary

The motion was seconded by Al Worrall, all were in favor.

Tom Smith motioned, seconded by Joe Boyle to retain Mark Merolla of Brumbach, Mancuso & Fegley, Solicitor for 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Tom Smith motioned, seconded by Al Worrall to retain Rodger Krause, Auditor for 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

Tom Smith motioned, seconded by Joe Boyle to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2020 meeting, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER- Alfred Worrall

The bills for month of December were reviewed. After discussion, Tom Smith motioned, seconded by Joe Boyle to approve the December treasurer's report. The motion carried unanimously.

Kelly Dudash questioned the copier lease payments. Christeena Hauck explained one invoice pays the lease and one pays the maintenance package. Two payments were made in December due to the November payment being held for clarification prior to submittal.

ENGINEER- Steven Riley

Steve Riley reported he has been working with Matt Hauck reviewing documents to develop a list of items needed from Arro Consulting. Also, receiving reports and various documents from MPBMA to help Entech get familiar with the operations. These will be stored at Entech for future use.

Provided a Master Services Agreement and Engineering Work Order for approval by MPBMA. The agreement was reviewed by Mark Merolla. After discussion, Joe Boyle motioned to execute the Mater Services Agreement with Entech, seconded by Al Worrall. The motion carried unanimously.

More information and discussion will be held at the next meeting regarding the Spook Lane Tank Study.

WATER SYSTEM -Matt Hauck

Matt Hauck reviewed the highlights of his monthly maintenance report and reported the following:

Two main breaks during December.

He is catching a few plumbers turning the curb stop to shut water off which can cause damage and expense to MPBMA and would like to further discuss a fine or penalty for the homeowner if the plumber shuts the water off at the curb without calling.

SCADA system is being replaced.

After discussion, Tom Smith made the motion for Entech to move forward with the Earl Gables survey and to combine both Earl Gables Ct and Harvey Ave project for design and bidding, seconded by Joe Boyle. The motion carried unanimously.

COMPLETE MAINTENANCE REPORT ATTACHED

SAFETY MEETING

Water and Wastewater Seminar at Albright College

SOLICITOR- Mark Merolla

No Report.

BUSINESS OFFICE

January 6th was the first Shut-off day since March of 2020. Thirty-nine property were shut-off for non-payment. As of today, only four remain off.

Sixty-four properties participated either in collections for a service/leak issue or COVID Collections and are now on a payment plan. These properties were asked to pay half to avoid shut –off and then to continue paying \$100.00 per month until the past balance is paid in full.

Steve Davis reported the collection accounts will be reviewed at the due date of the current bill which is February 8, 2021.

A few complaints were received about the convenience fee for credit card processing.

The rate increase has been added to the website.

Code Red is now active on the website. A training has been scheduled for Monday morning.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

Ann Sellers reported RACV did not meet in December.

Joe Boyle reported MPBMA was not awarded this round of the Growing Greener Grant. The majority of the funding went to the Chesapeake Bay.

The bridge across the lake and meadow area will be added to the plan by Liberty for the next grant submission.

BOROUGH OF MT. PENN

No Report.

ANTIETAM VALLEY MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY (AVMA)

No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Al Worrall questioned meters. After discussion, Matt Hauck will order 200 more and ask Exeter Supply to hold the current price.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe Boyle reported he had conversation with Matt Walbourne of Western Berks Water Authority. Western Berks will be considering a motion at their next board meeting mandating if the COVID vaccine is waived by any of their employees and they test positive resulting in missed time from work they will need to use sick time, PTO time or not be paid. Western Berks also offered assistance in the event MPBMA has an emergency.

Everyone received a copy of the email outlining the Digital Board Room Meeting Learning Device for discussion at the next meeting.

Matt Hauck reported the land at the shop is on one deed. The plan for the pole barn can be submitted to the Zoning Hearing Board. Mark Merolla suggested a meeting with the Zoning Officer to review the plan prior to submission. Entech will be able to assist with the plan.

Motion was made by Tom Smith, seconded by Joe Boyle, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christeena Hauck
Christeena Hauck
Support Specialist