

April 21, 2022 Minutes

The Telford Borough Authority Meeting held this date was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman John Harrell. The following members were in attendance: Eric Kratz, David Musselman and Robert Nice. Also present were Manager Mark Fournier, Public Works Director Gary Yoder, Solicitor Jim Jacquette, Engineer Patrick DiGangi, Recording Secretary Megan McShane and resident Bill Ashley.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the March 17, 2022 Authority meeting were approved unanimously (4-0) by a Nice/Musselman motion.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: Resident and Telford Borough Council Member Bill Ashley thanked the Board for their service, and informed the group that he recently toured Well #1, #3 & #6, as well as one of the lift stations and the south water tank, adding that he is proud of Telford.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. WWTF Weir Replacement Project & Spray Lining Project

Mr. Fournier distributed a quote to the Board from Eastern Environmental for the proposed weir replacement work on the secondary clarifiers at the WWTF, and gave an overview of the weir and trough systems. Mr. Fournier explained that only one weir was budgeted to be replaced this year, but given the continual increase in costs across the board, he suggested they may want to consider replacing both of them at one time.

Board Member Eric Kratz commented that we should keep things simple and replace both at once, adding that they could both be replaced again down the road when it is needed, and Chairman John Harrell agreed, adding that the weirs are worn down.

A Kratz/Musselman motion carried unanimously (4-0) authorizing Eastern Environmental to complete the replacement of the weirs on both clarifiers in the amount of \$86,100, and authorizing Advanced Rehabilitation Technology to prep and spray line the two new weirs in the amount of \$46,230.00.

Board Member Robert Nice inquired about what Franconia Township's impact will be, as far as their portion of the cost for this project; he asked the Board for potential consideration if the Township should need a payment plan, since more money will be spent than what was budgeted this year for this project, and additional monies are already being spent on the WWTF roof project than what was budgeted. It was the consensus of the rest of the Board that a payment plan would be acceptable if one is needed.

2. Mr. Fournier reviewed a detailed quote from A.C. Schultes for the proposed pump repair work that needs to be done at Well #1. A Nice/Musselman motion carried unanimously (4-0) authorizing A.C. Schultes to complete the repair work at Well #1 in the amount of \$59,106.

Mr. Harrell asked Mr. Fournier if the \$59,106 covers the whole project, including engineering costs for this project. Mr. Fournier explained that this is just the cost to the contractor. Mr. Harrell asked, going forward, that the Board be provided with a tabulation of all project costs, including engineering costs, once a project is complete, for all projects. Mr. Fournier indicated he would ask Mr. Davies for a tabulation.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Accepted as presented.

Mr. Nice asked for clarification on the \$10,000 expenditure to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Mr. Fournier explained that it is TBA's annual fee to PA DEP for our NPDES permit.

Mr. Nice then asked for clarification on the \$11,876 expenditure to Martz Technologies, and Mr. Fournier explained that it is for TBA's new SCADA weather station.

Mr. Nice also commented on the continuous high bills paid to Hall & Associates for the TMDL case.

Payment of bills and requisitions for the month of February in the amount of \$327,543.77 was approved unanimously (4-0) by a Musselman/Nice motion, and payment of bills and requisitions for the month of March in the amount of \$140,290.68 was approved unanimously (4-0) by a Musselman/Kratz motion.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT: We received a written report for the file.

Board Member Eric Kratz asked if he could get a tour of the water and sewer facilities similar to the tour that Mr. Ashley received, and Mr. Yoder confirmed that he could.

Mr. Harrell asked when TBA will start sewer lining again, and Mr. Yoder reported that the work will start in May; Third Street will be lined from the railroad tracks to West Broad Street, and from West Broad Street to the Fire House.

Mr. Yoder informed the Board that the current estimated delivery time for meter delivery is 46 weeks; the Water Department ordered some meters in September and they still haven't arrived.

COLLECTION REPORT: We received a written report for the file.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT REPORT: We received a written report for the file.

Mr. Harrell asked for further explanation of the shaft replacement on the oxidation ditch that was referenced on the WWTF report. Mr. Fournier explained that this particular shaft seized and broke the bearings and needed to be replaced.

Mr. Nice commented on the great magazine article on Dan Wurst that Mr. Fournier had e-mailed to the Board, and asked that the staff pass kudos on to Mr. Wurst. The Board formally recognized Dan and his outstanding accomplishment, and also recognized the other TBA employees who appeared in a photo with him within the article: Warren Harris, Bill Mattson, Bill McCue and Gary Yoder.

PTWA REPORT: We received a written report for the file.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Jim Jacquette provided a verbal report.

Solicitor Jim Jacquette informed the Board that the service charge analysis continues. Mr. Harrell gave an overview of what he and the staff have been discussing with the software people.

A Kratz/Nice motion carried unanimously (4-0) authorizing a \$7,000 expenditure to Freedom Systems for billing software modifications and training.

Mr. Jacquette then provided an update on the TMDL matter.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: We received a written report for the file.

Engineer Patrick DiGangi reported that a pre-construction meeting was held on Tuesday, April 19th for the WWTF Roof Replacement Project, and a Notice to Proceed was issued for the project to start on May 2nd. The project should be done by July 1st, if materials come in on time.

Mr. DiGangi then reported that the Lutheran Home Summerfield Project is currently stalled due to some re-design that needed to be done.

Mr. DiGangi also gave an update on the Well #6 docking station project.

Board Member Dan Cole arrived at 6:58 pm.

MANAGER'S REPORT: We received a written report for the file.

Mr. Fournier reported that TBA received a permit from DEP for the streambank stabilization project on Mill Creek Drive, so CKS can move forward with completing the bid specifications.

PENDING ITEMS:

- Mr. Fournier to provide a list to the Board of commercial/industrial customers who are using water & sewer capacity above one EDU.
- Staff to look into the option for customers to initiate their own ACH payments without the customer or TBA incurring any fees.
- The Board will continue its discussion about implementing rate structures.
- A letter should be sent to all customers on the excess usage list with an explanation as to why TBA is reviewing accounts and announcing a new rate program being considered by TBA. The Solicitor, Engineer, Manager and Chairman will continue to work on this letter.

- Continue discussions on the potential adjustment of service charges for customers with excess usage.
- Pursue risk assessment of TBA's cyber security.
- Mr. DiGangi to prepare a proposal with recommendations as to how to improve treatment and flow at the WWTF.
- Pursue cost information (lease vs. purchase) for generators at TBA's wells.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm by a Cole/Kratz motion.

Respectfully submitted,

David Musselman

Secretary