

Bowmanstown Borough Authority
February 20, 2024
Minutes

The Bowmanstown Borough Authority meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman -Darren Thomas; Vice Chairman – Joseph Civitella; Treasurer – Mathew Behler, member – Rodney Reeser, Solicitor -Neil Ettinger, Water Plant Operator - Craig LaBarre and Clerk – Tara Takerer were present. Secretary -Chad Everett was absent and Engineer -Mark Bahnick attended via telephone.

Executive session was called at 6:01pm to discuss litigation, came out of executive session at 7:15pm; while in executive session no motions or decisions were made.

Visitors:

Josh Casari – paid the \$3,000 tapping fee in September 2021; for his Social Hall that he had intentions to convert into an apartment. (based upon inspection pre -sale to Casari), 5 EDU’S were necessary for Building, per Discovery of 5 EDUs, pre- sale. Post sale additional EDU changed bringing total to 5 EDU, Board was not sure if he now wanted to reduce EDU from 5 to 4, No action taken, no written request received.

Ben Price – Requested to read Current Litigation Decision from Judge Searfass, despite Board already receiving the Opinion, matter still under Litigation not finalized, Board not sure why reading Decision to Board in Public Comment at public meeting, no action taken current status- under litigation (Provided two-minutes, elected to spend full 2 minutes reading Decision)

Jim Logue – Times News Reporter

Approval For:

A motion was made by Joseph Civitella, 2nd Rodney Reeser to approve the minutes of January, Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rodney Reeser 2nd Joseph Civitella, to approve the water treasurer report, Motion carried.

Solicitor:

1. Bulk water hauling rates will be obtained from other municipalities so the Board can determine hauling fees for 2024 year.

Engineer:

1. Mark reported that he has been in contact with DEP on several occasions discussing the Corrosion Control Feasibility Study. A \$1,000 application fee for the application was mailed in to DEP on 1/29/2024.

Other Business:

1. Insurance claim was opened on Tri-valley building for an incident that occurred on January 10th. The office had received a phone call that a tree fell and took electrical wires down, these wires were connected to the Authority building. Damaged occurred to the meter & roof. Received a quote from Duane Fable for electrical repairs of \$2,025, still awaiting roof quotes.
2. Water operator will review the consumer confidence report and approve before Tara submits it to DEP.
3. Tara, water clerk, is working on the spring newsletter; if the Authority would like anything added to such, please advise office.

Property/Water Operations:

1. Craig LaBarre, Portland Contractors and Brenda Ahner, Banko Excavating, will be installing the new water service line for 621 Lime Street on Feb 21, 2023.

2. Innovative Controls checked the wire and cable to Well #1, along with the motor for insulation resistance and it is low. Well #1 wire going down into the Well may be compromised, Craig advised that Joe Liberti is currently formulating a plan and a proposal to correct the situation
3. Penn Power serviced the generator on Feb 14, 2024.

❑ Correspondence:

| <u>Subject:</u> | <u>Date:</u> | <u>Summary:</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Trinity Church | 1/20/2024 | Sprinkler system issues, flooded church – sprinkler system by-passes meter. |
| Boro Minutes | 1/16/2024 | Minutes of borough council for review; board copied on |
| Litigation letter | 1/22/2024 | Ettinger & Associates submitted a letter to Kirk, Summa & Co per their request about pending litigation. |
| Board Training | March 14, 21, April 4 & 11 | Training for new and current board members – information on file in office |
| Right to know request #2024-01 | 1/23/2024 | K. Scott requesting total paid out on litigation fees; fulfilled request on 1/24 |
| Right to know request #2024-02 | 1/24/2024 | Open water liens on 536 Ore Street property and any other violations; fulfilled request on 1/24 |
| SRMA – Storm grate | 1/30/2024 | Notified homeowners association of a storm grate near Towhee & Manor, by Hydrant, that must be addressed due to safety concerns. |
| Right to Know Request #2024-03 | | B. Price requesting copies of all invoices, billing statements, submitted by Solicitor regarding 422 Ore St. litigations. - pending |
| 202 Ore Street | 2/7/2024 | Water meter leaking inside their house; crew addressed. |
| 600 Lime Street | 2/9/2024 | Water meter was installed, water turned on; and homeowner will receive water bill moving forward |
| Lead & copper study | Due date 10/2024 | Tara is still working on; there are over 200 survey letters not returned. Completing all those addresses as Unsure, must be determined. |

❑ Adjournment: A motion was made by Joseph Civitella, 2nd Rodney Reeser to adjourn the water authority meeting at 6:40pm , Motion carried.

Pending List:

- *Tara contacted Palmerton Borough regarding Vac truck in October 2023 to address 621 White Street shut off; currently pending until Spring, weather improves
- *Craig to do walk through inspection of Tri-Valley Property; per 1/2024 minutes
- *Lockboxes; Craig will pick up for Tri valley & Chlorine Building
- * Craig looking into valve on Green & Mill; talking to Brendon again
- * New hydrants to be installed/replacing old in town
- * Stortz Fittings complete for remaining hydrants
- * Craig to provide lock box information for Water buildings