

Mercersburg Sewer Authority
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
April 11, 2013
MINUTES

Attending: Chairman William Gaunt, Vice-Chairman Dan Chayes, Jim Malone, Doug Hoffman, Catalin Bonciu, Borough Manager Tammy Oberholzer, Assistant Borough Manager Dawn Scheller, and Solicitor Sam Wiser

Absent: Engineer Lance Kegerreis

Press: None

Guests: Dr. Elizabeth George; Eileen Finucane-Solicitor- 79 St. Paul Drive, Chambersburg; Frank Plessinger- 525 Hilltop Circle, Greencastle; Michelle Barnhart- 525 Hilltop Circle, Greencastle

Chairman Bonciu called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked for Public Comment.

Dr. George provided the Authority Members with information on the Johnstons Run Revitalization Connectivity Project. The Johnstons Run Revitalization Group would be interested in having the path travel through Borough Property, Sewer Authority Property, and the use of community sidewalks.

Dr. George reviewed the current grants they have received and stated that the organization would like to seek additional grants to assist with the construction/maintenance costs of the pathway. Dr. George described the proposed pathway as an 8 foot wide hard aggregate surface which walkers, runners, and bicyclists would be able to use. Dr. George also reviewed the educational benefit to the community.

The Authority was informed of liability information, preliminary questions were answered, and the action that Council took at the April 8, 2013 Council Meeting was shared.

MOTION: to support the concept, authorize continued cooperation, and to formalize agreements for the operations and maintenance of the trail was made by Doug Hoffman, second by Jim Malone, all ayes, motion carried.

Dr. George left the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Chairman Gaunt invited the Plessinger's to speak about their request.

Eileen Finucane introduced herself as the attorney representing the Plessinger's and explained they were requesting that the Mercersburg Sewer Authority assume ownership of a now privately owned sewer plant serving Guest Farm Village. She reviewed that Michelle Barnhart (current management) would be able to answer questions that the Authority had.

The Authority Members asked questions about the proposal:

(1) How close the facility is to Borough Property? *Answer was not close to Borough.*

(2) Why should the Authority take over the plant? *Answer from Michelle was that*

(a.) Mr. Plessinger is looking at retiring and he not looking to continue this because he wants to travel,

(b.) They currently have their own certified plant operator and that is an expense for them currently.

Michelle then stated that the Sewer Authority has their own operator and it wouldn't be an expense for the Authority.

(3) The Authority asked if they approached the Township about this matter, *no answer was provided.*

(4) The Authority asked what the benefit would be for the Authority. *Michelle answered the question stating that it would benefit the residents of the development because it is not their (current owner's) expertise but it is what the Authority does. Financially it would benefit the Sewer Authority in the future when the land is fully developed and currently each property pays \$55.00 per month. Michelle reviewed that they only provide Sewer Services.*

(5) The Authority asked if there were any funds that would be included with the transfer, DEP reports to review, or even any Specs on the plant. *None were available for the Authority to review.* After much discussion, the Authority stated that they were not interested at this time and thanked them for coming. The remaining guests left the meeting at 7:28 pm.

Chairman Gaunt moved on and asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report.

MOTION: to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month ending March 31, 2013 and the Bills payable/ Invoice list for the month of March 2013 was made Doug Hoffman, second by Catalin Bonciu, all ayes, motion carried.

The meeting Minutes from March 14, 2013 were accepted as presented.

Chairman Gaunt asked for the Solicitor's Report.

Sam Wisner presented information regarding the refinancing of the Sewer Authorities Loan and New Loan Information. Sam reviewed that the First National Bank of Mercersburg offered a tax free fixed rate of 2.10% for 82 months for the new money of \$145,000. After the 82 months the rate would float to 66% variable rate of prime. Sam Wisner also provided the Authority with an update that the Notice of Intent to Award was sent out on April 10, 2013. Sam reviewed that they are waiting on the awarded company's bonding information and they would verify all of that information. Sam Wisner asked the

MOTION: to approve the proposal from the First National Bank of Mercersburg dated March 14, 2013 authorizing the issuance of \$145,000 note to the First National Bank of Mercersburg at an interest rate of 2.10% for a term of 82 months thereafter a variable rate of 66% of prime, and also approve the Chairman and other proper Authority Officials to execute any and all documents related to the financing and authorize the Solicitor to prepare the necessary documents for execution by the proper officials was made by Dan Chayes, second by Catalin Bonciu, all ayes, motion carried.

Chairman Gaunt asked for the Engineer's Report. No information was presented at this time.

Chairman Gaunt asked for the Manager's Report.

Tammy Oberholzer reviewed information about a sewer blockage at 307-309 North Main Street. Tammy provided information to the Authority about this issue and it was discovered that the issue was the property owners and not the Authority. Tammy reviewed that the Owner asked that the PWD fix the issue and would be billed for the work completed. Tammy provided the Authority with information on Wastewater received from the School District, Academy Testing Information, completed vehicle repairs on the blue F350 dump truck. Tammy provided information for the money due to the Authority.

MOTION: to approve the repair bill for the 1997 F350 Blue Dump Truck to be paid from the Joint Equipment Fund was made by Jim Malone, second by Dan Chayes, all ayes, motion carried.

Tammy Oberholzer also reviewed information about a Buchanan Drive concern regarding lack of manholes and cleanouts available. The Sewer Authority requested that Tammy contact the Engineer to review the line on Buchanan Drive and make recommendations to resolve concerns.

Chairman Gaunt asked for the Secretary's Report.

Dawn Scheller had nothing to report.

Chairman Gaunt reviewed the Correspondence and the Calendar.

MOTION: to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm was made by Jim Malone, second by Doug Hoffman, all ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by Dawn L. Scheller, Assistant Borough Manager, using her meeting notes and recording.

Date Approved: Thursday, May 9, 2013