

**Mercersburg Sewer Authority
Borough Hall, Mercersburg PA
April 8, 2021
MINUTES**

Attending: Chairman Dan Chayes, Jim Malone, Gene Headley, Lena Eckstine, Plant Operator Jon Piper, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Secretary/Treasurer Stacey Golden

Absent: None

Guest(s) / Press: None

Chairman Dan Chayes called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

No public comments.

MOTION: To approve the Treasurer's Report & Bills Payable for months ending February 28, 2021 & March 31, 2021 was made by Jim Malone, second by Gene Headley. All ayes, motion carried.

The Authority accepted the February 11, 2021 minutes as written.

Authority moved into the Borough Manager's Report.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy reported on plant operations; Stoy reported that the flusher is still in need of repair, Chairman Chayes said he would look at it in the morning. The Digester Blower #2 Timer Board and Control Panel Heater both need repaired also. The Main Pumping Station Alarm is awaiting installation from Chairman Chayes. Manager Stoy said automatic startup is needed for the generator at the Main Plant Operations. The Generator Power Transfer at the Main Pumping Station was malfunctioning after the power outage last month and is currently being looked at. Moving on in his report, Stoy noted that the Water Authority has approved moving forward for online billing and anticipates going live in May and offer the first billing in July on the website. The 2021 Schedule of Fees is listed under New Business for approval, labor rates were adjusted to match wage increases with benefits. Manager Stoy reported that there were two submittals for the Plant Operations RFP which will need discussed. Stoy said he has not found a farmer that will take the sludge from Reed Bed #2 and may have to revert back to "old school" of hauling as done in past years. Engineer Lance Hoover submitted the plant assessment for review. An inspection was done on April 2, 2021 by DEP with no violations. Stoy concluded that there will not be a personnel meeting and that he would be starting excavation plans for Reed Bed #2.

Authority moved into the Plant Manager's Report.

Plant Operator Jon Piper commented that the Ammonia and DO levels are improving and reported that there were no violations for the month of March. Piper noted that the DO violations occurred as a result from going into "Storm Operation Mode". Chairman Chayes asked if there was a manual attempt to keep it from going into storm mode, Piper said he and borough employee Donald Keefer were going to try to move the float to prevent premature storm mode. Operator Jon Piper reported that the UV lights are being checked daily and a weekly cleaning of the UV racks are being done due to months of detailed issues/violations. All fees have been processed and paperwork completed for permit

modification. Piper reported that the SBR #2 rejuvenation has had “significant improvement”, Piper said the liquid on top is “very clear”. The same treatment for SBR #1 will be the same as SBR #2 to lessen the waste material followed by bio augmentation since efforts to save the treatment process has not responded. Operator Piper said there have been problems with lower than normal “shut off” position of the decant valve in SBR #2, it is currently not affecting plant operations but will be monitored. An inspection on April 2, 2021 was made by DEP to review the plant and the current operational status, Piper reported “We received high remarks from DEP for the many improvements and continued efforts we have made over this timeframe”. Piper concluded that there was an alarm that occurred at the Food Lion pump station on Friday March 19, 2021, two valve flappers were replaced due to significant grease in the vault.

Authority moved into Old Business.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy reported on the Central Square online billing noting that the payments will go into a separate account and then split out. The Water Authority has given approval.

MOTION: To move forward with the online billing with Central Square was made by Jim Malone, second by Lena Eckstine. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the 2021 Schedule of Fees was made by Jim Malone, second by Gene Headley. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the sewer credit request in the amount of \$302.47 for Stephanie M. Phillips, 311 South Park Avenue, was made by Jim Malone, second by Gene Headley. All ayes, motion carried.

The Sewer Authority invited Plant Operator Jon Piper to review his proposal with them for the Certified Wastewater Plant Operator position. Piper stated that he has made progress and expressed his desire to continue as the operator. Piper concluded by saying “I think we have an excellent team and we have a better handle on what needs to be done and what can be done and I would like to continue as operator, but ultimately that is your decision”.

Authority moved onto the Plant Operator RFP’s. Manager Stoy reminded the authority that there was a motion last year to extend Mr. Jon Piper’s contract through April 2021. Borough Manager Stoy asked the authority to consider if they wanted to change operators in the middle of all the changes being done at the plant.

MOTION: To accept the JWP Environmental Inc. proposal for two years, April 2021 through April 2023, as the Certified Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator with the option to extend for a third year was made by Jim Malone, second by Gene Headley. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:00 PM was made by Gene Headley, second by Lena Eckstine. All ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes have been transcribed and respectfully submitted for approval by Stacey Golden with the use of her meeting notes and audio recording.

Date approved: _____