

**Mercersburg Sewer Authority  
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA  
February 09, 2023  
MINUTES**

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

Authority members present: Dan Chayes, Jim Malone, Gene Headley,  
Borough Manager, Melissa Price

Absent: Lena Eckstine, Cory Mathews – Plant Operator – Jon Piper

No Guest/Press Presents – Elissa Nyer, Judy St. Clair, Margaret Whittaker, Ronnie Crompton

No Public Comment - NA

Treasures Report.

Motion to approve Tressures Report September & October 2022

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
Jim Malone	Gene Headley	All Favored – Motion Carried

Bills for Approval

Motion to pay Bills September, October, November, December 2022 & January 2023

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
Jim Malone	Gene Headley	All Favored – Motion Carried

No Solicitor's Report.

No Engineer's Report.

No Borough Manager's Report.

Discussion of Plant Manager Report- Jon Piper

September 09- Oct 11, 2022

1. Board's attention, No Violations
2. Weekly required bacteria testing continues to be in compliance indicating UV system is currently functioning.
3. Alarm call - Zero Alarms call requiring response for the month.
4. Reed bed #1 continues to have good to very good settling, healthy looking biological growth, diversity and activity, with limited to minor adjustments necessary to keep such.
5. SBR #2 having some difficulties with monitoring and process control decisions continues to have a good settling with abundant biological activity.
6. Multiple diesel generator alarms, for low coolant levels

7. Bring to Authority attention, past lesson, and attention to provide the highest quality materials to the reedbeds, combined with increased monitoring, a potential problem has been recognized. With the digester blower set on nearly its lowest setting and with only 4 days of digestion, our PH levels were nearing below too low causing potential odor or incomplete treatment if discharged to the reed beds to soon.

October 12, 2022- November 8, 2022

1. No Violations for the month of September
2. Our Weekly required bacteria testing continues to be in compliance indicating our UV system is currently functioning.
3. SBR#1 & SBR #2 continue to have good to very good settling, abundant very healthy looking biological growth, bring to the authority attention the digester blower set on nearly its lowest setting and retention/digestion at only 4 days, PH levels were nearing being lower than desired, this could cause potential odor or incomplete treatment of waste if discharged to the reed beds to soon. Keefer Drive (Food Lion) pump station, Keefer found the wet well to be completely full, floor wet, with minimal discharge beneath the door and onto the found surface, JWP nor Chairman Dan Chayes received any highwater alarms. Keefer pushed the manual float down and got the one pump to work again, Keefer estimated less than 10 gallons of discharged.

**Old Business –**

Credit for Oregon Street – Resident hire Plumbing Company to come in and they blasted the line out and her water/sewer bill was very high, Public Works along with Dan went down and ran the new push camera through an outside clean out that is down there, and carefully measured the distances and the blockage was clearly in the sidewalk & back from the sidewalk, the Homeowner is responsible from the curb into the residents and the Authority is responsible from the curb to the main. In this case we have video documentation. CV Wenger who came out to access the situation, their camera footage did not record. But there was some visual degradation around the connections around the area where the tree is which is in the sidewalk, Authority recommendation is that we do not approve this credit. Resident is asking for approximately \$500 dollars to cover the plumbers services to come out and jet the line and clean it, and asking for \$1500 dollars for estimated repair cost.

Motion to deny Sewer Credit at 33 Oregon Street based on the fact that there is clear evidence showing that the town’s portion of the line is clear, and the blockage is on the homeowner’s side of the curb.

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
Jim Malone	Lena Eckstine	All Favored – Motion Carried

Motion to deny credit main street crack pipe 15.3 ft to 17.6ft starts at beginning of sewer in house.

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
Jim Malone	Gene Headley	All Favored – Motion Carried

**New Business –**

Signage to be put up at the Sewer Plant – Reed Beds “Caution” also to put a pad lock on the Control Panel.

Budget 2023 –

“2019 – Operating Account - \$320,248”

“2020 – Operating Account - \$348,910”

“2021 – Operating Account - \$458,986” because we were not able to do a couple of substantial projects, left us an access of \$145,182 dollars - major repairs to be done.

“2022 – Operating Account - \$525,568”

\$554,000.00 – Operating Expenses - \$20,000 to transfer to Reserve Fund

Sewer Rates:

2015 - \$9.83 3%

2020 - \$10.13 3%

2021- \$10.43 3%

2023 - \$10.95 5% - per 1,000 gallons

Base Fee - \$22.00 Sewer includes 1,000 gallons.

Motion for the Proposed Budget of increase of 5%

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
Jim Malone	Gene Headley	All Favored – Motion Carried

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
Jim Malone	Gene Headley	All Favored – Motion Carried

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

Date approved: 4-13-23 Motion: Jim Malone Second: Gene Headley

