

**Mercersburg Sewer Authority Meeting**  
**Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA 17236**  
**February 8, 2024**  
**MINUTES**

**Attending:** Chairman Jim Malone, Joe Creighton, Ed Twine, Borough Secretary Matilda Gorman, and Public Works Employee Donnie Keefer

**Absent:** Member Gene Headley and Engineer Lance Hoover

**Guest(s)/Press:** Rick Frisby, South Fayette Street, Mercersburg.

Chairman Malone called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and opened the floor to public comment.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Hearing no public comment, Chairman Malone moved to the meeting minutes.

**MEETING MINUTES:**

**MOTION: to accept the January 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes as presented was made by Member Twine, second by Member Creighton, all ayes, motion carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT/BILLS PAYABLE:**

The Treasurer's Report for the month ending January 31, 2024, was noted to have errors.

**MOTION: to table the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable list for the month ending January 31, 2024, until the next regular scheduled meeting was made by Member Twine, second by Member Creighton, all ayes, motion carried.**

**ENGINEER/MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Keefer provided a summary of the Engineer's Report which included updates on plant operations. He reviewed that the SBRS are performing very well considering the rain events and the recent snow melt. These events did not impact the settling tank.

He reviewed that the UV system is getting worse, and the Authority should anticipate receiving two additional NOVs for January. Member Creighton asked if the weather station tracks information that can show any effect on the effluent as the results vary greatly. Mr. Keefer noted that the UV system should be capable of handling it and the weather should not impact this.

Mr. Keefer noted that both he and Lance spoke regarding the plan to introduce chlorine to the treatment process as discussed at the DEP Meeting. He noted that there may not be enough contact time in the piping system for the chlorine to react as initially thought. Mr. Keefer suggested that the Authority consider adding buildings on the side of each of the SBRS (close to where they decant) and at that point inject chlorine into the system, gaining the contact time needed for it to work. The estimate that Mr. Hoover and Mr. Keefer calculated for this is \$15,000.00 for two buildings and two pumps, but that estimate did not include the electrical work required for this project. Mr. Keefer noted with the sewer plant upgrades the chlorine project may not be a long-term solution, but it would be less expensive than completing the UV System right now. Member Twine had previously inquired if any of the items needed for the chlorine system could be repurposed once the new plant is brought

online. Mr. Keefer noted that the Water Authority would be able to utilize and repurpose the pumps at the Water Plants and he is confident that they would be able to repurpose the buildings. Mr. Keefer estimates the New Sewer Plant to be five years out from being completed and operational. He reviewed that the Authority must make the current plant work for the next five years. He reviewed that the information received at the DEP Meeting regarding the chlorination levels may require the Authority to build a dichlorination station which would require an additional small building and an additional pump.

Mr. Keefer informed the Authority to expect to receive NOVs regarding the decant process and the oxygen levels. He reviewed that they installed an air system to assist with improving the dissolved oxygen levels, however when the plant goes into storm mode the pumps do not kick on. Mr. Keefer noted three times during the month of January those pumps failed, and they were under the required dissolved oxygen levels. He reviewed that Mr. Hoover is investigating the matter further and noted that there is a pump that can be added which would solve this problem. The pump would be a plug and play item and additional pricing information would be brought back to the Authority for approval.

Member Twine asked what the cost would be for the in-line UV System. The Authority Members began discussing if they developed new piping could they install the new UV system now so that it would work with the current plant until the new plant is built and operational. They continued discussion on the proposed chlorine system and what type of building that they would need along with other improvements which elevated the estimate from \$15,000.00 to an estimated \$44,000 for the chlorine system. They began discussion on what it would take for the UV system to be installed. Mr. Keefer suggested that the Authority members discuss this matter further with Mr. Hoover.

The Authority Members reviewed that they would like to schedule a second meeting this month with Mr. Hoover as there was much to discuss about the project and meeting once a month may not be enough to complete the necessary tasks. Borough Secretary was asked to make a note to schedule a second meeting.

The next item that was discussed was restarting and completing the I&I study which had been placed on hold until the spring of 2024.

**MOTION: to restart the I&I and manhole inspection report was made by Member Creighton, second by Member Twine, all ayes, motion carried.**

**SECRETARY REPORT:**

Secretary Gorman provided her report which included information regarding overtime, and she noted concerns with the quantity of utility bills showing zero usage. The Authority Members requested that the office create a list of properties that are showing zero usage and a second list of properties that do not receive a bill but do have meters recording usage. The example provided was M.M.P. & W. Fire Department.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**MOTION: to table Resolution 2024-03-S: Fee Schedule as additional corrections need to be made prior to approval was made by Member Creighton, second by Member Twine, all ayes, motion carried.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business was brought before the Authority.

**MOTION:** to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm was made by Member Creighton, second by Member Twine, all ayes, motion carried.

*These meeting minutes were transcribed with the use of the meeting recording and have been respectfully submitted for review and approval.*

Date approved: 3/14/2024 Motion by: Creighton Second by: Twine



Dawn L. Scheller, Borough Manager

SEAL