

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Sinking Spring was opened on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall, by Mr. Francis Butkus. The following Authority members were present:

Francis Butkus
Richard Biggs (Absent)
Dennis Leiby
Brenda Messina (Absent)
Jeffrey Mohn

Others present were: Mr. Alex Morrison, ARRO Consulting, Municipal Authority Engineer; Mr. John Hoffert, Authority Solicitor; and Ms. Elizabeth White, Authority Secretary Treasurer who recorded the minutes of the proceedings. Council Representatives included; Mr. George Butkus.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Butkus asked if everyone had a chance to look over last months meeting minutes and if there were any errors or corrections. Mr. Leiby made a motion to approve the February 19, 2008 minutes; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

VISITORS:

Mr. Terry Kutz, who lives at 826 Columbia Avenue, asked the Authority if Wexcon, who did sewer work in front of his house, is liable to put soil back in front of his house where they dug it out? Mr. Kutz stated that he previously had shrubbery in there which had to be removed for the sewer work. He stated that he wants to put shrubbery back in but Wexcon filled in with stone and only six to eight inches of soil which is not enough for shrubbery. Mr. Morrison stated that he was made aware of Mr. Kutz's request for more soil and that Wexcon is going to try to give him as much soil as they can with out putting the sidewalk and curb in jeopardy. Mr. Kutz stated that he would like three foot of soil. Mr. Morrison stated that they are going try to get at least two foot may be more of soil in there as long as it does not start caving in. Mr. Kutz asked when Wexcon would be doing this. Mr. Morrison stated that he did not know and suggested that Mr. Kutz call ARRO's office tomorrow and speak with Mr. Brad Smith who is the project manager.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Mr. Morrison presented the Engineers Report dated March 11, 2008. Copy attached.

Sewer System Infiltration and Inflow Project:

Mr. Morrison stated that the project is nearing an end. He stated that both contractors have completed their work except for final restoration.

He mentioned that there is an issue regarding some of the laterals. He stated that we proposed to repair the laterals with grout. He stated that the cast iron pipes are so corroded that the balloon that pushes the grout into the joint would not hold air and because of that there are about fifteen locations that we could not repair. He stated that they got a price from Wexcon of \$8,000.00 to repair one location. He mentioned that he has that change order tonight but stated that ARRO recommends that the Authority not sign it and that we step back and consider each lateral individually and treat them as a separate contract or a repair in some other fashion.

Mr. Morrison mentioned that approximately 136,650 gpd of I & I was addressed by the repairs that were completed. He also mentioned that these laterals that can not be repaired as we would have liked account for about 33,550 gpd.

Mr. Morrison mentioned that there is another issue that we will need to consider as we move forward. He stated that we repaired our portion of the lateral to the edge of the right of way on Broad Street. He stated that there is still water coming in those laterals and any leaks now would be in the home owners facilities and we are going to have to decide what we are going to do with that. Mr. Butkus stated that he believes that we should televise it so that we can make the homeowner aware of the problem. He stated that we had a problem like that on Park Avenue. He also mentioned that in some of the older homes, we have found that the rain leaders are tied into the sewer lines.

Mr. Morrison stated that if the Authority is in agreement then we will proceed with analyzing the laterals individually, take pictures of the leaks and write letters to the home owners.

Mr. Morrison mentioned that Wexcon has submitted Pay Application #2 in the amount of \$23,309.69 which ARRO recommends payment of. Mr. Mohn made the motion to approve Wexcon's Pay Application #2 in the amount of \$23,309.69; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

Mountain Home Road Sanitary System Additions Project:

Mr. Morrison mentioned that the contractor is waiting for PP&L to connect the power to the pump station so that they can start up the pumps and operate the system. He stated that unfortunately PP&L is taking their time getting out there. He stated that as a result of that

ENGINEERS REPORT: (Cont.)**Mountain Home Road Sanitary System Additions Project: (Cont.)**

E. Kuser Inc. has submitted a thirty day time extension for approval this evening. Mr. Morrison stated that ARRO does recommend granting the time extension. Mr. Leiby made the motion to accept the time extension; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

Mr. Morrison mentioned that E. Kuser, Inc. has submitted Payment Application No. 3 in the amount of \$131,580.31 and that ARRO recommends payment. Mr. Mohn made a motion to approve the payment of \$131,580.31 to Kuser; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Project:

Mr. Morrison mentioned that as the Authority is aware ARRO has done the study. BCM has prepared a letter report which went to the Borough. He stated that the Borough is still reviewing that report. He stated that it is his understanding that they have approved portions of the project. He mentioned that ARRO has continued with the design and in part that design included soil borings out at the plant which are being done.

Traditions at Sinking Spring Development:

Mr. Morrison mentioned that engineers for Stackhouse Bensinger have been in discussion with Mr. David Schlott Jr. of ARRO regarding some of the sewer lines. He stated that they have requested the ability to modify some of their drawings based on those discussions and they will resubmit those drawings. He stated that upon obtaining those resubmitted drawings a formal review will be completed.

Mr. Butkus asked for clarification. He wanted to know if the drawings they are talking about are for the parallel line or the interceptor connector. Mr. Morrison stated that it would be a parallel sewer on the other side of the ditch but also ties in to our pipe. Mr. Morrison mentioned that we wanted to bring that line all the way up to Penn Avenue, but there are some very large storm water drains that we probably can not cross. He mentioned that we will have to go back out to Broad Street and out to Penn Avenue that way.

Infiltration and Inflow Study:

Mr. Morrison mentioned that not much has happened with this. He stated that the final amounts are being calculated.

ENGINEERS REPORT: (Cont.)**Sewer System Capacity Limitations:**

Mr. Morrison stated that Alcon has provided additional information regarding the history of expansions at their facility. He stated that they have scheduled a meeting with Alcon representatives for tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. to further review those issues. He mentioned that Alcon has significantly reduced their flow but even with those reductions it has not relieved our sewer lines sufficiently to add enough additional capacity in those lines.

Mr. Morrison mentioned that we had discussed the concern with properties in the borough having a change of use and the Authority not being made aware. He stated that the Borough is considering adding a few lines to the building permit application form that would ask those questions. He stated that there is a meeting scheduled with Borough staff to pull this together and open the lines of communication so that when someone tries to pull a building permit that is going to create additional flow the Authority will be made aware of it.

JOHN HOFFERT:

Mr. Hoffert stated that he wrote the letter to Mr. Wenrich, Council President, concerning the Study Committee. Mr. Hoffert read the letter to the Authority.

FRANCIS BUTKUS - CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Butkus mentioned that the attorney for the Wilson School District attended last months meeting. Mr. Hoffert stated that we provided him with the information that he requested. Mr. Hoffert mentioned that Mr. Kalyan also sent a letter to Ms. White asking for information in regards to the right to know act. Ms. White stated that she responded to his letter stating that he was welcome to come in and go through the records and that he should call to set up a time. Mr. Hoffert also mentioned that Mr. Kalyan sent a letter to Lower Heidelberg requesting information concerning their reserve capacity. He stated that he did not see where Lower Heidelberg responded to that request. Mr. Butkus stated that Mr. Fitzpatrick addressed part of that at last weeks Council Meeting. He stated that the number he used at last months Authority meeting was over 100,000 gpd and the number Mr. Fitzpatrick came up with 134,000 gpd of reserve capacity.

Mr. George Butkus mentioned that Mr. Fitzpatrick's number is based on what they were sold minus what is currently flowing to us. He stated that some of that reserve may be already allotted to somebody which we would not know. Mr. Hoffert stated that if those numbers are correct then they should have sufficient capacity to give to the school. Mr. Butkus asked if Lower Heidelberg's Chapter 94 and 537 shouldn't show that? Mr. Morrison stated that their

FRANCIS BUTKUS - CHAIRMAN: (Cont.)

Chapter 94 Report should show any projected EDU's so if they sold some of that off for some proposed developments it should be shown on the report.

Mr. Hoffert asked if he should contact the attorney representing the School District to see if they have received a response from Lower Heidelberg. Mr. Butkus stated that it would be a very good idea. Mr. Hoffert stated that he would follow up on that tomorrow and let Ms. White know what he finds out.

Mr. Butkus asked Mr. Hoffert if he had spoken to Ms. Heidi Masano. Mr. Hoffert stated that he had not spoken to her about anything to do with the Authority. Mr. Butkus mentioned that he understands that there is some talk in South Heidelberg that they may be entertaining the idea of totally withdrawing from our system. He stated that he wonders if their engineer and Ms. Masano are aware of the fact that to do so would almost guarantee that they would have to build a pump station to pump their flow out of our pipe. He stated that they have three points of connection into us. Mr. Morrison stated that it would take some consideration because typically once you have connections into your system you would not normally release them because they are rate payers and they are figured into the cost of operation part of which is debt service. He stated that maybe any future connections might be considered. Mr. Butkus wondered what kind of misinformation they are getting. Mr. Butkus corrected himself and stated that he believes that they have four lines that come into us and not three. Mr. Hoffert stated that he will call Ms. Masano and discuss this.

Mr. Leiby asked if we could ask Lower Heidelberg who they have sold capacity to that is in reserve right now. Mr. Morrison stated that he believes that is some of the information they do provide for the Chapter 94 Report. He stated that it is not detailed but it should show the number of units connected and the number of proposed units.

Mr. Butkus asked if ARRO was preparing our Chapter 94 Report. Mr. Morrison stated that they were and that it is due by March 31st. He stated that they are working with Miller Environmental and gathered information on the Authority's behalf and solicited information from the neighboring municipalities.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Mr. Butkus stated that we have five bills from ARRO Consulting totaling \$37,168.96. Mr. Leiby made a motion to pay ARRO's bills in the amount of \$37,168.96; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: (Cont.)

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from the Reading Eagle for \$47.85 for advertising the re-scheduled February meeting. Mr. Leiby made a motion to approve payment to the Reading Eagle for \$47.85; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from Mr. Hoffert for \$250.00 for services rendered through March 11, 2008. Mr. Leiby made a motion to pay Mr. Hoffert's bill in the amount of \$250.00; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from Ms. White in the amount of \$305.21 for services rendered for February 2008. Motion was made by Mr. Leiby to pay Ms. White's bill in the amount of \$305.21; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus mentioned that if the attorney for Wilson School District does come in to go through our records that Ms. White's time be covered by the Municipal Authority and not the Borough.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Butkus asked if everyone had received a copy of the Treasurer's Report dated March 11, 2008 and if anyone had any questions. Motion was made by Mr. Leiby to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus mentioned that our balances are going down. Ms. White mentioned that the total account balances equals \$389,228.92, and with the bills we have for this evening, which total \$192,662.02, it will leave us with a balance of \$196,566.90. She mentioned that we should get reimbursement from the Borough for the sewer line repairs which are being done by Wexcon and New England Pipe Cleaning. Mr. Butkus mentioned that our only income is Tapping Fees which have basically stopped for now since the Brookfield Manor development is basically complete. Ms. White mentioned that we have a little bit coming in from the Brutto development. Mr. George Butkus mentioned that we will be getting funds in from Traditions. Mr. Francis Butkus mentioned that we are not looking at the volume of income that we had been. He stated that all of the moneys that we dispersed were for exactly what it was supposed to be used for, reduction of the debt and for paying for the major repairs.

MR. GEORGE BUTKUS:

Mr. George Butkus mentioned that the Borough did agree, based on the BCM Report, to go ahead with the head works, the screenings, and the additional reed beds. He stated that they are hoping to decide at next months meeting, after they can review the Chapter 94 Report briefly,

MR. GEORGE BUTKUS: (Cont.)

whether or not the Clarifier is necessary. He stated that from Council's side, Mr. David Schlott Jr. has been instructed to prepare a letter responding to the BCM Report from ARRO's standpoint. He stated that there were certain assumptions made, such as, everything is fine now and let the future to the future and the fact that using the second oxidation ditch as a pre-settling tank or storage tank, which experience taught us we can not do.

Mr. George Butkus mentioned that the study group has been formed and that their first meeting will be March 31st at 7:00 p.m. here at the Borough Hall. He stated that from there they will establish a more steady recurring date that they can meet. He stated that all meetings will be open to the public and any one is welcome to come and voice their opinion. He mentioned that Ms. White will be the recording secretary for the study group and that way she can answer any questions that they may have concerning how billing is done.

Ms. White mentioned that the Authority Auditor has been at the office for the last two days and that he will be back tomorrow to finish up.

Mr. Francis Butkus mentioned that he has to get together with Mr. Hart about getting the lockable files for down in the basement.

Mr. George Butkus mentioned that they are still experiencing unusual spikes in the BOD back at the sewer plant. He stated that several things are being done to check into the cause. He stated that they are taking additional volume during the twenty-four hour composite sample, splitting it in half and sending them to different labs to see if it is a lab error. He stated that they are also in the process of purchasing a new sampler which was budgeted for and planned to be replaced this year anyway. He also mentioned that they will be doing some grab testing to see if they can nail down where it is coming from. He stated that they are also checking to see if the manhole covers are being tampered with which could mean that some one is illegally dumping into the system.

Mr. Zerr asked who is responsible for making sure sewer lines are capped properly when a building is torn down. Mr. Butkus stated that he believes the plumbing inspector is supposed to ascertain that before it is back filled. Mr. Zerr stated that he believes Grande did not cap the lines on S. Hull Street when those buildings were torn down. Ms. White stated that she is still billing the minimum charges for those properties because they were not permanently capped. Mr. Zerr stated that he is wondering how much water is coming in those lines because water sits there. Mr. George Butkus stated that he believes it is a Borough issue. Mr. Butkus stated maybe we can have the guys from Miller go out and televise it to see if any inflow is coming in. Discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Butkus asked if there was anything else for the good of the order and asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Leiby made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth White
Municipal Authority Secretary/Treasurer