

The re-scheduled monthly meeting of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Sinking Spring was opened on Monday, April 14, 2008, at 6:30 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
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 March 11, 2008 minutes; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Mr. Morrison presented the Engineers Report dated April 8, 2008. Copy attached.

Sewer System Infiltration and Inflow Project:

Mr. Morrison stated that Wexcon submitted Payment Application No. 3 in the amount of \$8,501.83. He stated that ARRO recommends payment and that a retainage of \$1,000.00 was withheld until grass is established.

Mr. Morrison stated that Wexcon also submitted a deduct compensating Change Order No. 3 to delete the unused quantities from the contract. He stated that he has given those to Ms. White and that ARRO recommends approval by the Authority.

Mr. Morrison stated that New England Pipe Cleaning Co. (NEPCCO) has submitted Payment Application No. 1 in the amount of \$63,129.22. He stated that ARRO recommends payment and that the balance to finish is \$10,938.23.

Mr. Leiby made a motion to pay both Payment Applications and to approve signing the Change Order; seconded by Ms. Messina. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Morrison mentioned that there was a start up Tuesday, April 2, 2008 and that all did not go well. He said that they had problems with the pumps and the pipes and that Kuser is working on it. He mentioned that Kuser did submit Payment Application No. 4 in the amount of \$18,833.69 and that ARRO does recommend payment. He mentioned that there is a balance remaining of \$18,325.62. Mr. Leiby made the motion to pay E. Kuser, Inc. \$18,833.69; seconded by Mr. Mohn. Motion carried.

Mr. Leiby asked Mr. Morrison what he thought the problem was. Mr. Morrison stated that there was some settlement of the soil which broke some pipe.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Project:

Mr. Morrison mentioned that DEP is requiring a "special study." He also mentioned that Mr. Schlott Jr. is preparing a response to the BCM letter. He stated that ARRO is continuing with the design and that there has been no final decision related to the final clarifier and the expansion of capacity.

Traditions at Sinking Spring Development:

Mr. Morrison mentioned that they are reviewing a set of revised plans that were submitted after ARRO had some comments.

Infiltration and Inflow Study:

Mr. Morrison mentioned that we are still holding their money until every thing is done and we finalize the value of cost that their poor performance created on this other job. Ms. Messina asked if we have heard from ADS. Mr. Morrison stated that they are waiting patiently.

Sewer System Capacity Limitations:

Mr. Morrison stated they did have a meeting with Alcon and that he has a letter that he handed out which we will go over later. He stated that Alcon is reviewing their future needs but they also reviewed their capacity to date.

Mr. Morrison mentioned that there is still a problem on Penn Avenue regarding sewer line capacity and that there is not enough capacity to connect upstream. He also mentioned that Borough and Authority staff are considering means of communicating changes in use for properties that increase flow or number of units.

ENGINEERS REPORT: (Cont.)**NPDES Discharge Permit:**

Mr. Morrison stated that ARRO is working with Mr. Juzyk of Miller Environmental concerning the NPDES discharge permit renewal. He mentioned that there is a cost associated with the testing and that the Authority has agreed to pay that as long as Miller Environmental provides a cover letter explaining what it is before we have to do it.

Alcon Letter:

Mr. Morrison stated that we received a short letter from Alcon. He stated that when we had our meeting with them we could basically justify two (2) EDU's when they first connected and then there was a purchase of twelve (12) more EDU's that we could also confirm for a total of fourteen (14) EDU's. He stated that a decision should be made tonight on those fourteen (14) EDU's in relation to how many units to charge them for the sewer billing. He stated that it is really a Borough issue, but the Borough is looking to the Authority for this billing cycle. He stated that in the letter it states that we should contact them so we can adjust future sewer bills. He stated that he has not contacted them as of yet because we just received the letter today. He stated that as of now we are only billing them for two (2) units and that we can charge them for fourteen (14) units without question. According to Alcon's letter they are using sixty-nine (69) EDU's. He stated that he will contact Alcon and discuss future sewer billings and decide if we are going to charge them for sixty-nine(69) units. Discussion ensued.

JOHN HOFFERT:

Mr. Hoffert stated that Ms. Heidi Masano and Mr. Fitzpatrick are still working on amendments to the operating agreement between the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Sinking Spring, the Township of South Heidelberg and the Municipal Authority of the Township of South Heidelberg. He stated that it is under review by Mr. Morrison. He stated that one of the big issues will be for the Borough and everybody to agree to how many GPD's or capacity Forino has available. He stated that Ms. Masano suggested that we split the difference between what Forino thinks he has and what we believe he has and go with that number. He stated that we are waiting for the Borough to review it. He mentioned that Mr. Fitzpatrick and Ms. Masano got his comments on it. Mr. Butkus asked if the agreement addresses going from the present billing system to the volume billing and withdrawing some of their flow that has been going to Spring. Mr. Hoffert stated that is does. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Hoffert mentioned that he received a call from Mr. Fred Reigel regarding Grande and South Hull Street. He stated that they are not going ahead with their plans and that they are not going to apply for a variance to put those twelve (12) units in. He stated that he is just going to go back to the four (4) original units.

JOHN HOFFERT: (Cont.)

Discussion ensued concerning the cost to dig up and replace the line on Columbia Avenue. Mr. Morrison stated that it would probably be more than \$200.00 per foot.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Mr. Butkus stated that we have four bills from ARRO Consulting totaling \$19,292.72. Ms. Messina made a motion to pay ARRO's bills in the amount of \$19,292.72; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from Earth Engineering for \$12,590.00 for the soil boring at the treatment plant. Mr. Mohn made a motion to approve payment to Earth Engineering for \$12,590.00; seconded by Ms. Messina. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from Eimco for \$63,213.00 for the part that was ordered last year that was finally delivered. Mr. Leiby made a motion to pay Eimco bill in the amount of \$63,213.00; seconded by Ms. Messina. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from Reinsel for the audit in the amount of \$2,050.00. Mr. Leiby made a motion to pay Reinsel's bill in the amount of \$2,050.00; seconded by Ms. Messina. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from Mr. Hoffert for \$550.00 for services rendered through April 14, 2008. Ms. Messina made a motion to pay Mr. Hoffert's bill in the amount of \$550.00; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from the Borough in the amount of \$201.91 for Ms. White's time when the Authority auditor was here and they also included the cost of a box of paper for coping that has been done over the years. Mr. Leiby made a motion to pay the Borough's bill in the amount of \$201.91; seconded by Ms. Messina. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from Ms. White in the amount of \$280.00 for services rendered for March 2008. Motion was made by Mr. Leiby to pay Ms. White's bill in the amount of \$280.00; seconded by Ms. Messina. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued concerning the Borough's responsibility to pay the Authority's operating costs. Mr. Butkus mentioned that the only thing the tapping fee money can be used for is paying down the debt and capital improvements.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Butkus asked if everyone had received a copy of the Treasurer's Report dated April 8, 2008 and if anyone had any questions. Mr. Butkus noted that the checking account balance is coming down and that it is nothing to be excited about because we have done everything that is legally right with the money. He mentioned that we will be reimbursed for the Wexcon and NEPCO bills. Ms. White asked if the Borough was supposed to reimburse the Authority for the engineering costs for that project also. Mr. Butkus stated that they probably should and instructed Ms. White to figure out how much it is. Mr. Morrison stated that it should all be on one work order.

Motion was made by Mr. Leiby to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Ms. Messina. Motion carried.

MR. GEORGE BUTKUS:

Mr. George Butkus mentioned that the study group regarding the operational status of this Authority met once in April and the next meeting is scheduled for the first Monday of May. He stated that they came up with a list of people that they wanted to ask questions of. He stated that they are people from functioning Authorities and places that disbanded their Authorities.

Mr. George Butkus mentioned that Mr. Schmidt received a call from the superintendent of the Wilson School District questioning where the school was supposed to get their capacity for sewage for the new Junior High because Lower Heidelberg does not have any to sell them. He stated that Lower is not currently utilizing all of the capacity they bought in the last upgrade but they have divvied it up and sold it various developers so they do have it on their books to sell to anyone. He stated that Lower Heidelberg's response to the School District was that they had planned that the School's capacity would be in the next upgrade at the Sinking Spring plant but they have not heard anything on that. He stated that the School District has gone to DEP and they are now citing the need for the school. He stated that there are some members of Council that now feel that DEP will force the Borough to go along with the Clarifier as an operational need for the plant. Discussion ensued.

Mr. George Butkus mentioned that it is his understanding that Mr. Schlott's concern is that before we get the order to upgrade or concurrent with that we will also get a cease and desist all new connections order from DEP. Which would mean that Traditions could not go forward and no new connections could be made to the plant.

MR. GEORGE BUTKUS: (Cont.)

Mr. Morrison stated that if you develop a corrective action plan and submit it to DEP and say here are the steps we are going to take and it is going to relieve our capacity restriction then you can still do connections. He stated that some times they will regulate the connections and allow only so many per year. He stated that he is sure that DEP will work with us because they have spoken to some of the people there.

Mr. George Butkus thanked everyone for their time and encouraged everyone to come to the Council meeting on Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Ms. Messina made a motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth White
Municipal Authority Secretary/Treasurer