

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Sinking Spring was opened on Tuesday, July 10, 2007, at 7:40 p.m., at the Sinking Spring Borough Hall, by Mr. Francis Butkus. The following Authority members were present:

Francis Butkus  
Shawn Schwartz (Absent)  
Paul Roth  
Richard Biggs  
Dennis Leiby

Others present were: Mr. Alex Morrison, ARRO Consulting, Municipal Authority Engineer; Mr. John A. Hoffert Jr., Authority Solicitor; and Ms. Elizabeth White, Municipal Authority Secretary/Treasurer, who recorded the minutes of the proceedings. Council Representatives included; Mrs. Barbara Kutz and 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. Hearing none he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was made by Mr. Roth; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

#### **ENGINEERS REPORT:**

Mr. Morrison presented the Engineers Report dated July 10, 2007. Copy attached.

#### **Sewer System Televising Project:**

Mr. Morrison stated that at the last meeting we had gone over the Sewer System Televising Project report which has three parts to it. He stated that there are priority one (1) repairs, which had leaks, priority two (2) repairs, which did not have leaks, and priority three (3) repairs which included root cleaning. He stated that in the priority one (1) repair portion of the project there was one (1) manhole section along Broad Street that had significant leaks and ARRO proposed to replace or line it. He stated that the feeling of the Authority at that time was if we went forward with any repair work we would probably replace it and use a larger line. He mentioned that at that point ARRO was also asked to go back and do a cost analysis and provide an opinion of cost for what it would cost to replace the entire ten (10) inch line that is now in Reedy Road and Broad Street from the point that it connects to the fifteen inch line back through the area that needs repair. He stated that it encompasses manhole 186 through manhole 193 which includes 2,154 feet of sewer main and nine (9) manholes. He stated that the opinion of cost to do all that is \$545,000.00. Mr. Morrison also mentioned that if the Authority wanted to go back all the way to Penn Avenue it would be an additional 784 feet and three (3) additional manholes and it would cost about forty percent more.

**ENGINEERS REPORT: (Cont.)**

Mr. Morrison briefly went back over the report for Mr. Biggs who missed the last meeting.

Mr. Butkus asked of the cost of repairing the street was included in this. Mr. Morrison stated that items seven (7) through nine (9) on page two (2) of the engineers report covers the street reconstruction. Mr. Butkus suggested that we talk to the Borough about this because they had discussed redoing that street two (2) years ago and he told them not to because he knew we were going to have to do something with that line and he mentioned that he knew that line was bad back then. He stated that it would be foolish to fix the street and then go back in and tear it up. He said that if we do it as a joint venture there would be a cost savings both ways. Mr. Morrison suggested that the Authority take the lead and have the project designed and bid and then if the Borough is willing to participate in the cost then it can be an administrative cost venture, but mentioned that there should be just one owner. Mr. Biggs asked if the Borough has mentioned recently that they are going to redo that street. Mr. Butkus stated no. Mr. George Butkus mentioned that it did come up in a Workshop meeting earlier this year about when we were going to put that on the streets rotation. He mentioned that when the street was built it was not designed for the heavy traffic load. He also mentioned that the thought was to wait until Traditions went in because of any utility tie ins and depending on where they tie in to the sewer system they would have to expand the line to some extent on their own because of the additional volume that would be flowing through that pipe. Mr. Francis Butkus stated that we should have a discussion with the head of the Street Committee.

Mr. Morrison encouraged the Authority to coordinate their efforts because you don't want a utility coming in and tearing up the street after you have just done the street. Mr. Butkus stated that this is a project that won't happen this year. Mr. Morrison stated that we might start the design at the end of this year. He also mentioned that the paving companies won't start making paving again until the Spring time. Mr. Biggs mentioned that we have to be conscious as to how long it takes because the pricing will go up the longer we wait.

Mr. Butkus mentioned that he had spoken to Mr. Hillibush about that line. Mr. Hillibush told him that the line is that full that he can't use his camera to go down through there. He stated that the line is always half or more full.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Butkus suggested that we go ahead with all of the other repairs and let this one on Broad Street float as one by its self because of the magnitude of it. Mr. Morrison mentioned that in that one (1) section on Broad Street there is 50,000 gpd of leakage. He mentioned that the lining repair is \$23,000.00 and the replacement of just that section is \$40,920.00. He stated that the Authority should put that on the list of considerations. He stated that we could replace that section now with fifteen (15) inch and replace those two (2) manholes and we would not have to

**ENGINEERS REPORT: (Cont.)**

do that again later. He reiterated that we would be saving 50,000 gpd of leakage. Mr. Morrison stated that the Authority also has to decide if they want to just do the priority one's(1), two's, or three's or all of them.

Mr. Leiby asked if we do this (Broad Street) before the fact can we recover anything from Traditions after it is done or do we hold off. He stated that we were going to have them pay part of the bill and he wanted to know if we did it ahead of time if we could still make them pay part of it. Mr. Hoffert stated that we would have to get their agreement ahead of time. He stated that they would not have to pay ahead of time but that we should get their agreement stating that they commit themselves to the payment at such time that it is appropriate. Mr. Leiby stated that we should lock them in.

Mr. Butkus stated that he thinks, for now, we should just eliminate that 400' section from the other stuff and just go with the root removal and the slip lining to the rest of the system and make Broad Street a separate game by its self. He mentioned that if we get the ball rolling now we could get this done before winter and we could address Broad Street between now and Fall. Mr. Morrison stated that you could do it separately. He mentioned that you could bid the project with everything in it with Broad Street as an alternative in case you get a real good price for it and then decide to take it or not take it. He stated that it would just be a line item set aside on the bid form. Mr. Biggs asked what the stop gap will cost us with out doing the 400' section on Broad Street. Mr. Morrison stated that if you fixed everything and did the root removal less the repair on Broad Street it would be about \$60,000.00 to \$70,000.00. Mr. Biggs made a motion; seconded by Mr. Leiby to go ahead with the bidding for the fixes including Broad Street as an alternative. Motion carried.

**Mountain Home Road Sanitary System Additions Project:**

Mr. Morrison mentioned that we did receive bids on June 11, 2007 with the apparent low bidder being E. Kuser Inc at \$220,787.35. He stated that ARRO sent them a notice of intent to award. He also mentioned that ARRO has received the contract documents which have been reviewed by both ARRO and Mr. Hoffert. He stated that they find nothing wrong with the documents and would normally recommend awarding the project. He stated that they have one concern, and that is the fact that we still have not received the executed right-of-way agreement from APR. Mr. Hoffert mentioned that he had been on vacation and when he got back his secretary went on vacation. He mentioned that he asked Mr. Morrison to have one of his associates call APR tomorrow and stated that he will call their attorney tomorrow. He stated that his suggestion is that we give authorization for the Chairman and the Secretary to execute the documents subject to receipt of that final easement. He stated that otherwise we are going to have to condemn it. Mr. Hoffert stated that we need to make a motion to have the Chairman and secretary and appropriate officers to execute the contract but not award it until we get the final easement.

**ENGINEERS REPORT: (Cont.)**

Some one from the audience asked how long the Authority is going to give APR to respond before they act on condemning the property so they can get going on the project. Mr. Hoffert stated that we have time but added that we don't want to wait until next month. He mentioned that we may have to call a special meeting to do that. He also mentioned that he is hopeful that we have an answer in the next couple of days.

Mr. Leiby made the motion stated by Mr. Hoffert; seconded by Mr. Biggs. Motion carried.

**Upgrade and Minor Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion:**

Mr. Morrison mentioned that the design has been initiated and that they are gathering background data. He stated that they still need to talk with the PaDEP regarding the scope of the planning effort and that they will get back to us on that related effort once they have confirmed what DEP is actually going to make us do.

**Letters:**

Mr. Morrison mentioned that two letters went out. One on June 14, 2007, which was the Intent to Award letter to E. Kuser, Inc. regarding Mt. Home Road. The other was to Sinking Spring Borough offering comments on the Sickafus Minor Subdivision.

Mr. Morrison mentioned that he will hold on to the Agreements until we get that right-of-way and then he will bring them back for signatures. Mr. Butkus mentioned that we would need the seal at that time also.

**MR. JOHN HOFFERT - SOLICITOR:**

Mr. Hoffert asked Mr. Butkus if he had a chance to review the draft letter for Ms. Masano. Mr. Butkus stated that he did and that he did not see anything wrong. Mr. Hoffert stated that he wanted Mr. Butkus to review it and authorize him to send it out. Mr. Hoffert read the draft letter to the Board. Mr. Butkus stated that he had one addition to the letter. He asked Mr. Hoffert to add that the construction of the pump station was entirely Spring Township's responsibility and that Sinking Spring had nothing to do with it. He stated that it was included in an agreement between Spring Township and South Heidelberg. Mr. Hoffert stated that he would add that and send it out. Ms. Kim Reifsnyder of Lower Heidelberg Township wanted to clarify that the 33,000 gpd in additional capacity that they requested did include the new Wilson Jr. High School. She mentioned this because Mr. Hoffert had mentioned it in the letter to Ms. Masano. Mr. Hoffert stated that he would revise that also.

**MR. GEORGE BUTKUS:**

Mr. Hoffert asked how we made out with the lighting strike back at the plant. Mr. George Butkus stated that after about two (2) weeks of the operators having to be there 24/7, because the metering equipment had been taken out by the storm, they got all of the metering equipment back up with the exception of the chart recorders. He stated that they have been ordered and that there is a three week delay from when they authorized it last week. He stated that other than that the plant is up and running and is fully automated again. He mentioned that PaDEP is allowing them to estimate some of the flows or just document the flows based on the totalizers without the charts because of the damage to the equipment. Mr. Hoffert asked if the insurance had been put on notice. Mr. Butkus stated that the insurance company was contacted and was involved with most if not all of the decisions to replace virus repair.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Mr. Butkus stated that we have three bills from ARRO Consulting totaling \$11,641.09. Mr. Butkus asked about the hydraulic model. Mr. Morrison stated that they still needed to get together to compare the model. Mr. Butkus asked who needed to meet. Mr. Morrison stated that he, Mr. Butkus and Mr. Hillibush should meet. Mr. Butkus stated that he should set up a time and call him. He mentioned that it will help justify Broad Street. Motion was made by Mr. Roth to pay the bills; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from The Reading Eagle for the Mt. Home Road Bid Invitation in the amount of \$299.40. Motion was made by Mr. Roth; second by Mr. Leiby to pay the bill. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill from Mr. Hoffert for services rendered through July 10, 2007 in the amount of \$250.00. Motion was made by Mr. Roth to pay the bill; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus stated that we have a bill for \$300.00 from Ms. White for services rendered for June 2007. Motion was made by Mr. Roth to pay the bill; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

**AUDIT REPORT:**

Mr. Butkus asked for a motion to sign the Audit Report that was reviewed at last months meeting. The report needed signatures before it could be sent out. Motion was made by Mr. Leiby; seconded by Mr. Roth. Motion carried.

Mr. Butkus asked if anyone in the audience wanted to address the Board. Ms. Kim Reifsnnyder of Lower Heidelberg Township stated that, for the Authority's information, on June 20, 2007 the Pennsylvania Department of State agreed to terminate their Municipal Authority and as of 9:00 am tomorrow morning their Municipal Authority will no longer be up and running and everything will go through their Supervisors. Ms. Reifsnnyder gave Mr. Butkus a copy of the paperwork for our records. Mr. Butkus asked Ms. White to make a copy of the paperwork and give it to Mr. Hoffert.

Mr. Butkus asked if anyone else wanted to address anything. He mentioned that the gentleman sitting in the back, Bill Moser, was at a past meeting and stated that he had requested information and never received all of it. Mr. Butkus asked him if he could tell us what exactly he was looking for. Mr. Moser stated that it was in his original letter of request and that he did not have it with him. Mr. Moser stated that he could resubmit his letter and highlight the ones that are still missing. Mr. Hoffert stated that it is a good idea. Mr. Butkus stated that is the only way we could comply. Mr. Butkus mentioned that when the move was made some records were misplaced. Mr. Hoffert stated that if we have it then Mr. Moser will get a copy of it. Mr. Butkus stated that we have nothing to hide but finding it may be another story.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Butkus asked if everyone had received a copy of the Treasurer's Report dated July 10, 2007 and if anyone had any questions. Hearing none he asked for a motion to accept the Treasurers Report. Motion was made by Mr. Roth to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mr. Leiby. Motion carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Butkus asked if there was anything else for the good of the order.

Mr. Roth made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Biggs. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Elizabeth White  
Municipal Authority Secretary/Treasurer