

October 23, 2019

A general meeting of the Sewer Authority of the Borough of Minersville was held Wednesday, October 23, 2019 in Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street. Chairman Thomas Eltringham opened the meeting with the flag ceremony at 7:00PM.

ATTENDANCE

The following members attended the October meeting- Jeremy Olenick, Thomas Eltringham, Richard DiBiase, Al Bobinas, Councilman Steven Darosh, Solicitor Tim Pellish, Ray Sukeena, Sewer Plant Manager and Borough Manager, Robert Mahalchick. The Authority noted that member Gabby Angelo "rolled a seven" earlier in the month. The Authority will sincerely miss councilman Angelo for his knowledge and also his humor.

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Paul Datti, Bond Counsel for the Authority explained the Resolution presented for the Bond Purchase and Guarantee Agreement. Mr. Bobinas made a motion to pass the Resolution, Mr. DiBiase seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Attorney Datti explained the Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Minersville Sewer Authority, which will extend the life of the Authority an additional fifty years. Mr. DiBiase made a motion to approve the Amendment. Mr. Olenick seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

MINUTES

Mr. Bobinas made a motion to approve the September 2019 minutes. Mr. Olenick seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. DiBiase made a motion to approve the September Financial Report. Mr. Olenick seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

VISITORS

There were no visitors at the October meeting.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor had no additional information to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Don Cuff was not present at the October meeting.

SEWER OPERATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sukeena presented members with a written report. Mr. Sukeena reported there was another problem at Fuel Up. The company called in Dallago and it was determined that the problem was Fuel Up's. A collapse was discovered in their pipe and the pipe itself was not the proper pipe. Mr. Sukeena reported that DEP did an intense full day inspection, which included the pump stations. Mr. Sukeena believes the inspection went well. Mr. Sukeena reported that the grit collector is now up and running. Mr. Sukeena and Don Cuff visited the Jim Thorpe Sewer plant to observe their press. The press, which was installed about eighteen months ago, has had no problems and requires very little maintenance. Mr. Sukeena reported that type of press would work well at our plant and is actually on the lower end of the price scale.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business to discuss.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Mahalchick reported he is working on the 2020 Budget, which includes a 5% rate increase, which will need to be approved by Borough Council. Mr. Bobinas questioned if we should increase the amount of the loan associated with the refinancing. The Solicitor stated he believes the Authority has a good plan with the amount of financing planned. The exact figures will be available and ready for approval at the November meeting. Mr. Bobinas questioned if some of the work associated with the earmarked projects, could be done "in house" to save money, which could be used for other projects. Mr. Eltringham stated that should certainly be looked into. Mr. Olenick cautioned that Prevailing wages may need to be observed. Mr. Eltringham questioned who determines if prevailing wages need to be paid. Solicitor Pellish said he would be advising. Mr. Bobinas stated he recently read of a sewer authority being sued by customers who experienced a sewer backup and questioned if we could be sued for blockages resulting from the Lewis Street Project. The Solicitor stated that anyone can always sue for anything, but our Authority has always showed due diligence for any blockage problems.

Mr. Mahalchick stated that Mr. Angelo's position on the Authority would need to be filled by Borough Council. Councilman Darosh has offered to serve, but it is the opinion that even though he can serve while on Council, he cannot collect paychecks from both entities. The Borough has received on written request to fill the position and many verbal requests.

Mr. Mahalchick reminded members that the November meeting would be held on the third Wednesday due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Mr. Olenick made a motion to adjourn. Mr. DiBiase seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary