

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

July 24, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:	Spring	Joseph Galbraith Gregg Heny Chris McMurtrie Dondi Smeltzer
	Benner	Dan Hoffman William Hughes Timothy Miller
	Walker	Dennis McDowell Ted Onufrak

GUESTS: None present

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The July 24, 2017, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Timothy Miller, Chairman. Mr. T. Miller thanked everyone for attending and stated that the meeting would be recorded for transcription.

ROLL CALL:

William Hughes, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording nine members present. Mr. T. Miller, Chairman noted that with a quorum present, the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was permitted to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. T. Miller, Chairman, led the Board members and Employees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. T. Miller asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the July 10, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Hughes moved, seconded by Mr. Heny to approve the Minutes of the July 10, 2017 Regular Meeting as presented. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

April Praskovich & Clint Wagner – We received a letter from April Praskovich and Clint Wagner requesting our Authority grant them a reduced user fee rate for their property at 266 E. Fifth Avenue. The current home will be demolished and a new home will be constructed by Valley Homes. Our office received confirmation from Bellefonte Borough that the water service to this property was terminated on July 12, 2017. **Mr. McDowell moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to grant the Reduced User Fee rate to the property located at 266 E. Fifth Avenue, Bellefonte in accordance with our Authority's rules and regulations. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

PA Department of General Services – We received a confirmation letter from Twyla Jones of the Pennsylvania Department of General Services, Bureau of Supplies & Surplus Division, informing us that our application for purchases at the Federal Surplus in Harrisburg has been approved.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Onufrak reviewed the financial reports for the period ending 06/30/2017. Mr. T. Miller asked if there were any questions regarding the Treasurer's Report or any comments by the Authority staff. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Heny to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-105 – Mr. Onufrak presented the Board with Revenue Requisition 2012-105. Mr. T. Miller asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition #2012-105. Mr. Heny referenced the bill to Gwin, Dobson & Foreman for professional services relating to the PS#7 upgrades and wanted to know if this was the final payment for the job. Mr. W. Miller indicated he held the final payment until the Authority was in receipt of the record drawings for the project, which were recently received.

Mr. Hoffman referenced the payment to the Huntingdon County Sheriff and asked what that payment was for. Mrs. Gill explained that an Authority customer who owns the property at 1151 Valley View Road, Bellefonte is delinquent with their sewer bill and lives in Huntingdon County. Our Authority has filed a municipal lien against the property and is proceeding with the next step towards the sheriff sale of the property. We have requested the Huntingdon County Sheriff's office to serve the property owner with the required notice with the assistance of our legal counsel.

Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve Revenue Requisition 2012-105 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$39,492.36. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

GUESTS: There were no Guests present for the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Pump Station #7 – Mr. W. Miller informed the Board that we are still waiting for Gorman Rupp to schedule a visit to Pump Station #7. Envirep has been working towards resolving the issue. The Authority has a spare gear that could be installed if something should happen to the other pump. Mr. W. Miller also reported the thermostat recently malfunctioned and HRI is scheduled for a site visit on 07/25/2017.

509 Hughes Street Sewer Extension – Bellefonte Borough and Spring Township have both indicated that a street opening permit is not necessary for the Hughes Street Sewer Extension. Spring Township stated they do not own/maintain this section of Hughes Street and that it may be privately owned. Mr. W. Miller talked with the neighbors and the Faith United Methodist Church to make them aware of the pending extension. Mr. Onufrak suggested having the Authority's solicitor complete a deed search to identify who owns the property so we know who to obtain the sewer easement from. Mr. W. Miller will provide Mr. Mix with the necessary property information to identify who owns the property in question.

In-Home Inspections – Mr. W. Miller reported that the in-home inspection request letters have been mailed to the all homeowners tributary to the Pump Station #7 drainage area and the Zion Road Interceptor. This would include all properties within Walker Township, into Bellefonte along Zion Road and Musser Lane.

Pleasant Gap Parade – Mr. W. Miller indicated several employees will be participating in the Pleasant Gap Parade on July 27, 2017 at 6:30 P.M.

13th Annual Knoebels Picnic – Mrs. Gill reminded the Board that the annual picnic at Knoebels Amusement Resort will take place on Saturday, August 5, 2017. The food sign-up sheet was available for those who plan on attending.

Jack Catherman's Garage (Sunset West Property) –Mr. Smeltzer informed the Board that he was recently approached by Richard Bird, who is handling the affairs of the Sunset West property, about our Authority's requirement of a tapping fee for the connection of the garage to the public sewer. Mr. Smeltzer indicated he was unable to answer some of the questions asked by Mr. Bird and directed those questions to Mr. W. Miller. Mr. Bird was trying to understand why initially our Authority didn't assess a tapping fee for the connection of the garage to the public sewer, but then an invoice was sent to Mr. Bird indicating a sewer tapping fee was due.

Mr. W. Miller indicated that when Harry Eby initially approached our Authority about connecting the garage to the sewer he had indicated there would be no business operating out of the garage, that it was just a workshop for Mr. Eby. Mr. Eby was going to install a separate sewer lateral for the garage and connect to the sewer main within SR 26, which would require a Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) with PennDOT and PennDOT inspection fees. Due to the expense associated with the HOP and the road restoration requirements, Mr. W. Miller allowed Mr. Eby to connect the sewer lateral for the new garage to the existing Sunset West sewer lateral. Mr. Eby even went to the extent of contacting the neighboring property owner to inquire about connecting directly to their line since it was much closer; however, an agreement between those two parties was never reached.

Mr. W. Miller informed Mr. Eby that if the garage was ever used for anything other than his personal workshop, a sewer tapping fee would be assessed. A sewer tapping fee is used to pay for that particular customer's share of the debt service for the interceptor lines conveying flow to the treatment plant.

Mr. Smeltzer was then questioned by Mr. Bird about multiple buildings/apartments connecting through one tap and the customer only paying one tapping fee for multiple units. Mr. W. Miller indicated that on occasion our Authority has been approached by a customer wishing to install a toilet in their residential garage and connecting it to the sewer system through their lateral. Those customers were not required to pay a tapping fee since it was for their own personal use and connection was made through their existing sewer lateral; however, a commercial property or multi-family connection would be required to pay a tapping fee.

Mrs. Gill stated that during the original phase in the early 1980s this Authority only charged one tapping fee for multiple connections; however, our rules and regulations changed over the years requiring one tapping fee per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU). A duplex would be required to pay two EDUs.

Mr. T. Miller asked Mr. Smeltzer why Mr. Bird didn't attend an Authority meeting to have his questions answered. Mr. Smeltzer indicated he was approached by Mr. Bird while out working in his yard and told Mr. Bird that he didn't necessarily have all of the answers, but would discuss it with the Board. Mr. T. Miller indicated it would have been best for Mr. Bird to attend a meeting to obtain the answers.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business presented for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Zion Manor – Mr. McDowell asked if there has been any further contact with our Authority about the Zion Manor development along Zion Back Road. Mr. W. Miller stated he hasn't been contacted, but believes the property is for sale.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel & Community Relations Committee – Mr. Hoffman had nothing to report.

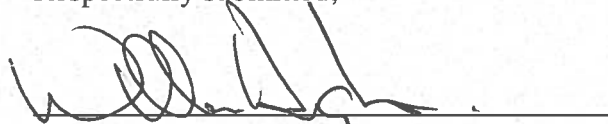
Facilities Committee: Mr. Hughes had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. Onufrak had nothing to report.

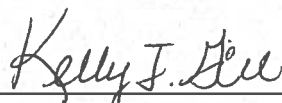
ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Heny moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. 9 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



William Hughes, Secretary



Kelly J. Gill, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township
Spring Township
Walker Township

7/24/17