

HULMEVILLE MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY
Meeting Minutes
July 27, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Hulmeville Municipal Water Authority meeting was held on the above date via Zoom. This meeting was advertised in the Courier Times, and notice was posted at Borough Hall.

Roll call was taken by Dorothy Omietanski

Authority Member's Present

Kurt Ludwig, President
Bert Wolfe
Patricia Taggart
Mike Wasson

Staff in Attendance

Dorothy Omietanski, Borough Secretary
Sheri Wheeler, Water Reader Meter
Bob DeBias, Solicitor

Authority Members Absent: Joe Nocito

Staff Absent: Mike Whittaker, Licensed Water Operator and Pat Slater, Water and Sewer Clerk

Authority Members Late to Arrive: none

Guests in Attendance: none

Call to Order: Mr. Ludwig called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: none

Minutes:

Motion made by Ms. Taggart seconded by Mr. Wolfe to approve the minutes of June 22, 2020; Motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

August Meeting: August's meeting will be held by Zoom. Ms. Omietanski will advertise the meeting in the Courier Times and post at Borough Hall.

Motion made by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Wasson to hold August Authority meeting via zoom; motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

Budget: The new budget will go into effect September 1, 2020.

Motion made by Ms. Taggart second by Mr. Wolfe to approve the budget effective September 2020; motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

Motion made by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Ms. Taggart to resend the motion to approve the budget in order to advertise the budget for adoption at the August meeting; motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

Motion made by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Wasson to advertise the budget in the Courier Times for adoption at the August Authority meeting; motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

- Deficit in Budget – The current budget’s short falls is due to the revenue in sewer is not keeping up with the sewer costs. The main issue for the deficit is water flow issues. The water flow costs from BCWSA is on average very high. The Authority has confirmed that the issue with water flow is not in the system itself as the amount of the flow greatly exceeds the amount of the water purchased from BCWSA. The added water flow is coming from vents, sump pumps and or laterals. The added flow in the system runs parallel to rain events. The first area of focus for resolving this issue will be inspecting the vents for height and for caps. Mr. Ludwig has also been trying to obtain portable flow meters to try to determine if one section of the Borough has stronger flows than others to try to narrow down points of concern.

Bills: Mr. Ludwig presented the following bills to be paid: Carroll Engineering for \$135.00, Public Water System \$65.00, and Zoom to upgrade the account for the month of July \$15.89.

Motion made by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Ms. Taggart to pay the bills; motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

Motion made by Ms. Taggart and seconded by Mr. Wolfe to buy another one month Zoom upgrade; motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

Water and Sewer Clerk:

- Budget Accounts – Mr. Ludwig reviewed all the current budget accounts with Ms. Slater. Most accounts have been paying their monthly bills on time since March. There are a few accounts not paying, but they are the same accounts that were an issue before COVID.

Water Meter Reader:

- Meter Reading – Last reading Ms. Wheeler had a major issue with the meter reader device she uses. All accounts showed 0 usage when she downloaded her reading to the computer. Ms. Wheeler scheduled a call with Munibilling and the software company. She also included Mr. Toth for technical support. After a 2-hour conference call it was finally resolved. The problem ended up being a mapping issue on Munibilling’s end. During the meeting they also informed Ms. Wheeler that her hand-held reading device was very outdated and now most Authorities were using cell phones as their reading device. Ms. Wheeler is working to gather information regarding using a cell phone, and

determining if both the current computer system as well as her current phone need to be upgraded. She will report back when she has more information.

- Meter Replacement – BCWSA has been backlogged due to the COVID shut down. They are ready to proceed with the meter replacements. Ms. Wheeler has provided them with an updated list of customers who need replacements.
- Monthly Billing – Ms. Wheeler was absent at the last meeting, but had heard discussion took place regarding monthly billing. Ms. Wheeler just wanted to add to the discussion by stating monthly billing would add significant cost to the budget's bottom line, and she is not sure the added cost would be worth it, there would be significant cost's in payroll, postage and materials.

Correspondence: none

Old Business:

- BCWSA Lateral Insurance Program – As of September the BCWSA lateral insurance will be terminated due to a law suit against them from local businesses. BCWSA will also no longer be able to clean out the storm drains in the Borough. Currently Mayor Mahon is working with Gilmore and Assoc. to secure bids to complete the storm drain cleanouts in the Borough.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm; motion made by Mr. Wolfe seconded by Ms. Taggart; carried 4-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski,
Hulmeville Borough Secretary