Myerstown, PA 17067

 May 11, 2023

 Chairman Steven Hammer called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., prevailing time. The meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Myerstown Water Treatment Facility situated at 601 Stracks Dam Road, Myerstown, PA, 17067.

ROLL CALL:

 Present were: Chairman Steven Hammer; Treasurer Bryan Rittle; Secretary Brian Ziegler; Asst. Treas. Justin Kale(absent); Vice Chairman Patrick Angley; Engineer Farley F. Fry; Solicitor Kenneth Sandoe; and Operations Manager Chris Strause.

MINUTES:

 Motion by Mr. Angley: Second by Mr. Rittle: To approve the minutes of the April 13, 2023 meeting as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. IRS 941 Payroll Discrepancy Correction letter
2. Cincinnati Insurance Non-Renewal letter

INVOICES:

 Motion by Mr. Rittle: Second by Mr. Ziegler: To approve payment of the invoices as presented and attached. Motion passed unanimously.

.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Was reviewed. Mr. Strause stated that an interest payment was made on the bank loan. $48,048.85 was transferred by Mr. Miller from the General Account to the Commercial Loan Account.

OPERATIONS REPORT FOR MAY 2023:

1. Cycle #3’s meters were read for the month May 2023.

2. 145 Pa One Calls were responded to in April 2023.

3. Southern Corrosion was out April 26 & 27 and completed the extension of the overflow pipe to ground level, and also replaced the vent on the very top of the tank. They want to come out and paint the elevated tank and pressure wash both the inside and outside of the ground tank. They wanted to start this week but I had to say no. I need to show DEP a plan on how I will drain the elevated tank and where the water will go as well as the nearest bodies of water that could be affected. A temporary permit will be issued once that is completed. I will need a minor permit for the ground tank since we are draining it and entering to pressure wash. I will also have to come up with a plan for how I will drain that tank and where the water will go.

5. I contacted GES to ask if they feel a need for the antenna that is currently on top of the elevated tank for the radio system for SCADA. That system is no longer in use since we had lost line of site with the water plant because of the growth of the trees. We have since went to all cellular modems which have been very stable. Also, if we remove the antenna, we would no longer need to have the FCC License which will be do for renewal next year (July/2024). The antenna system and FCC License in our application is old technology, so I feel before we paint the tank, we should remove the antenna and not reapply for the FCC License. Southern Corrosion said they would remove the antenna during the painting project.

6. I spoke with React Environmental from the Whitmoyer superfund site. They would like Farley and I to attend their next progress meeting Thursday, May 18, 2023, to discuss not only the final disconnection of the 6” main, but also our concerns with the authority’s corroding infrastructure concerns.

7. The service at 435 W. Main was replaced.

8. The authority’s current electric contract expires December 2023. The authority currently has a rate of $0.0439. The authority can elect to lock in at a new rate now or wait until December to see the price. The attached IGS Market Overview & Electricity Strategies can be used for comparison.

9. The Empower 457B Plan needs to be updated for the Secure Act 2.0. I have attached a copy for everyone to review.

Motion by Mr. Rittle; Second by Mr. Angley: To make 2 changes to the 457B plan: to adopt the qualified birth provision and to allow a 55-year-old to transfer to another account without penalty if they choose. Motion passed unanimously.

OFFICE REPORT FOR MAY 2023:

1. There were 0 new connection fees paid since last meeting.
2. There was 1 bad check last month. Customer used old account and was not happy.
3. We posted 21 properties this month.
4. Shutoff notices were sent to 42 properties this month.
5. The bank is getting very particular about the writing on the checks from customers. We have had to send numerous ones back to the customers.
6. Attached is a copy of the most recent Auditor’s Report that I do monthly.

CASH POSITION:

 Was reviewed.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

A Deed of Dedication was prepared for the water line at McDonald’s. It needs to be signed by the property owner.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Was reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Water Plant structural issues were discussed during the Engineer’s Report. Crack monitors will be installed and an observation well will be drilled.

There were no changes to the Dunkin Donuts or the Cornerstone Estates Projects.

The Center Ave. Water Main Replacement Project was discussed in the Engineer’s Report. The change orders approved last month totaled $44,435.17, which was less than the estimated $61,775.00 initially requested.

The Fairlane Ave. Superfund Site was discussed in the Engineer’s Report.

The Land Development Plan for 428 W. Lincoln Ave. was discussed in the Engineer’s report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Mr. Ziegler, Second by Mr. Rittle: To approve Requisition 27-2023 for $1316.46 to Hanover Engineering for the Transmission Main Project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Rittle; Second by Mr. Angley: To approve payment of $806.30 to Hanover Engineering from the Dunkin Donuts Escrow Account. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Angley; Second by Mr. Ziegler: To approve payment of $1294.50 to Hanover Engineering from the Cornerstone Estates Escrow Account. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Rittle; Second by Mr. Angley: To approve Payment Application 1 for $119,664.00 to Ebersole Excavating Inc. for the Center Ave. Water Main Project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Ziegler; Second by Mr. Rittle: To approve Payment Application 2 for $79,676.17 to Ebersole Excavating Inc. for the Center Ave. Water Main Project. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Rittle; Second by Mr. Angley: To charge the property owner of 19 E. Center Ave. for costs incurred due to his request for changing the water services to suit his needs, at a cost of $6,520.00 (change order #2 from Ebersole). Motion passed unanimously.

The DEP Technical Assistance Program was discussed.

The Stantec Consulting Services lab results and planned contaminated soil removal project at the Authority’s vacant lot at Strawberry Alley & Walnut Alley was discussed.

Motion by Mr. Angley; Second by Mr. Rittle: To remove concrete foundations on Fairlane Ave. under the water line. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Strause discussed a proposed plan for a car wash at 651 W. Lincoln Ave. He will speak to the property owner to get more information.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 P.M., prevailing time.

 Respectfully submitted,

 Brian Ziegler

 Secretary

Transcribed by Terry Miller

Admin. Sec.

 `