MINUTES

SHREWSBURY BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING                                                                   August 25, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT:  Dennis Wertz, John Hoover, Terry Blomquist, Ted Nadobny, and

Andrew Campbell

OTHERS PRESENT:  Brian L. Sweitzer, Supt. of Public Works; Jeffrey L. Rehmeyer II, Esq.;

Jason Brenneman, Eng. (Zoom); Phil Robinson; Kevin Shaub; Megan

Shaub; Ben Butler; Richard Buchanan

A regular meeting of the Municipal Authority convened at 7:01 p.m. with Chairman Nadobny presiding.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

J. Hoover moved to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2021 meeting.

T. Blomquist seconded. The motion carried with all voting in favor.

**CITIZEN’S COMMENTS**

Phil Robinson spoke regarding a four-lot subdivision for Carroll Anderson on Kennedy Circle across from the back entrance to the elementary school. Supt. Sweitzer reviewed the plan and submitted comments. Eng. Brenneman will review the plan next week. Three Township EDU certificates were submitted and one of the 25 Anderson EDUs will be used for these lots. (Please see entry below about the 25 Anderson EDUs.) Phil asked that the sewer capacity letter be sent to New Freedom Borough.

J. Hoover moved to authorize Eng. Brenneman to send the sewer capacity letter to New Freedom Borough for the four lots.

D. Wertz seconded. The motion carried with all voting in favor.

**EXPENDITURES AND REPORT OF ACCOUNT**

D. Wertz moved to approve the June and July expenditures and report of accounts.

J. Hoover seconded. The motion carried with all voting in favor.

**BUSINESS**

Meeting with New Freedom Borough

Chairman Nadobny stated the meeting was very productive and it was learned how New Freedom Borough calculates the EDUs based on the what the plant is capable of treating. Another meeting will be held in September that will include the Township. Phil Robinson stated the Township created a Sewer Committee and member Ben Butler was present this evening. There are five members on this committee: Township Manager Todd Zeigler, Supervisors Art Rutledge and David Brose, Ben Butler and Phil. Supt. Sweitzer stated the plant was at 85 – 90% capacity prior to the rain. At the meeting, an agreement was reached that only a certain number of EDUs would be sold before the next upgrade could take place in 2024. At the meeting, it was confirmed again that an EDU is 350 GPD. Supt. Sweitzer also stated that three large projects will be done on the system in the future and that perhaps the Act 57 study could be updated to reflect the monies spent to see if the tapping fee could be increased.

Council President, Buck Buchanan, presented information based on the number of EDUs the Borough has (3,800). There are 310 left not in use with 256 future Borough development from the “Holley study” leaving 54 EDUs. The same calculation for 2018, which was a very wet year, showed there are no EDUs left to sell. Flows were less in 2019. Flows for 2020 show there are EDUs to sell. Buck wanted to let the Authority know that if the Borough transfers some EDUs to the Authority to sell, it must determine how those EDUs will be sold.

Eng. Brenneman stated Stewartstown Borough asked DEP how to determine the number of EDUs it could sell and DEP responded that “Maximum Instantaneous Daily Flow” calculations should be used. Phil stated that Stewartstown Borough and Hopewell Township have two developments going and that flows are being added to the plant.

Anderson 25 EDUs

Thirty-five EDUs were purchased in 1999 with the hopes of using them on an assisted living facility in the Borough but in fact ten townhomes were built in the Borough, the rest of the land was in the Township. These 25 EDUs have been unassigned Borough EDUs. At the August Council meeting, Council approved the transfer of these 25 EDUs to the Andersons to use on their land in the Township.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Right-of-Way along Stone Arch Road (Shaub)

Kevin Shaub was present to state that there is a half-acre of ground he is unable to farm due to the land laying wet. He spoke about his right-of-way agreement, and in particular, his interpretation about how he should be able to use the ground subject to it. Solicitor Rehmeyer will be reviewing the agreement further.

Supt. Sweitzer said that since the sewer line was slip-lined (around 2012), it might be wetter in the area as groundwater can no longer infiltrate the sewer line. The Public Works Department tried to put some drain tile in the area but they seemed ineffective as there was no water coming out. There is also a natural swale and a creek nearby.

Eng. Brenneman was asked to look at this area to determine if the sewer line contributes to the water issue. He stated that the additional water is more than likely coming from upslope development. Supt. Sweitzer stated his Department will attempt to mow the right-of-way tomorrow.

1270 East Tolna Road

A sewer line was repaired at this location in 2020 and the property owner believes the springs that feed his pond were disturbed. The property owner was to be at the meeting so this matter was tabled.

106 Penny Lane Removal of Meter

The tenant removed the meter and was not billed for any gallons for the last three quarters. The minimum was being charged. The Authority thought that the property was vacant since the owner was out of the country. The property was visited on July 7 and when asked to check the meter, the tenant denied access and said to come back the next day. When checked on July 8, almost 200 gallons had registered on the meter. This could be considered theft of services by deliberately removing the meter. The Authority will back bill the property owner at the flat rate, and Solicitor Rehmeyer will prepare a letter to convey the bill and confirm that any further tampering with the meter, theft of services or other inappropriate behavior shall be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

D. Wertz moved to authorize the Secretary to create a bill for the flat rate for the three quarters, subtracting what was paid for the minimum charge, and have it sent with the Solicitor’s letter.

T. Blomquist seconded. The motion carried with all voting in favor.

North Interceptor Sewer Replacement Project

Supt. Sweitzer said all permits have been obtained but the pipe is still back-ordered due to COVID. It may need to be done next spring.

310, 318 and 322 West Railroad Avenue Sewer Right-of-Way

Megan Shaub, owner of the above properties, was present to ask who will be mowing the natural waterway in her back yards that also has a sewer line. It has thistle and other weeds growing. Phil Robinson stated that is part of the Eitzert Development, and that there is more wild flower seed to be planted. The second pond was to be finished by this time but everything should be finished by September and the drainage will be corrected at that time. The Home Owners’ Association for the development is responsible to mow the natural waterway. Supt. Sweitzer stated the Public Works Department mows the right-of-way twice a year, but such mowing is done only to permit access by the Authority if necessary and not to regularly maintain the area. Phil stated the detention pond is to be mowed once a year, per the approved plan.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Discussed earlier.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

Sol. Rehmeyer reminded Phil that the maintenance agreements and bonding for Sussex Place still need to be submitted and reviewed.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

D. Wertz moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

J. Hoover seconded. The motion carried with all in favor.

Prepared by Cindy L. Bosley, Recording Secretary