MINUTES

SHREWSBURY BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING                                                                   January 24, 2024

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

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

Jason Brenneman, P.E.; David Pergrin; Doug Hollins

A regular meeting of the Municipal Authority convened at 7:00 p.m. with Chairman Blomquist presiding.

**REORGANIZATION**

The current officers are:

Chairman Terrence Blomquist

Vice Chairman Dennis Wertz

Secretary Andrew Campbell

Treasurer John Hoover

Asst. Sec./Treas Ted Nadobny

Engineer James R. Holley & Assoc.

Solicitor CGA Law Firm

J. Hoover moved to re-elect the same officers as last year and to re-appoint James R. Holley & Assoc. as engineer and the CGA Law Firm as solicitor.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

T. Nadobny moved to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2023 meeting.

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

**CITIZEN’S COMMENTS**

None were offered. The developers of the Laricina Development at the corner of East Tolna Road and Mount Airy Road were not present. The plan was reviewed by Eng. Brenneman and Supt. Sweitzer in December and no revisions were received. The developer needs to show proof of ownership of the EDUs needed.

**EXPENDITURES AND REPORT OF ACCOUNTS**

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

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

**BUSINESS**

Doug Hollins, 14430 Elm Drive Sewer EDUs

Mr. Hollins was present. Based on the Sewer Capacity Purchase Agreement dated August of 2020 between the Authority and Steel Farm Land LLC, if the EDUs are not put in use within two years, the Authority has the option of charging the owner the flat rate per quarter or the EDUs can be deemed forfeited. Mr. Hollins has two Township EDUs and two Borough EDUs. He plans to have a mulch storage business at this facility and he will have one York Water connection solely for the irrigation and another connection for his work trailer, and eventual shop, that is in the process of being connected to the sewer system. Mr. Hollins is unsure if he wants to retain all four of his EDUs at this point. Starting with the first quarter bill, he will be billed for four flat rate charges ($335.00 each) along with four S CAP IMP fees in the amount of $29.00 each, to which Mr. Hollins agreed. Once the work trailer is connected and ready to be billed, this will be revisited by staff but likely there will be one regular bill for the usage and one S CAP IMP fee and three flat rate EDUs and three S CAP IMP fees. Should Mr. Hollins not want the two Borough EDUs, they would be returned back to the Borough per the precise language in the Agreement.

J. Hoover moved that Mr. Hollins be billed under the Sewer Capacity Purchase Agreement four flat rate fees of $335.00 each along with four Sewer Capital Improvement Fees of $29.00 each for the first quarter billing.

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

Meeting with New Freedom Borough

No further meeting date has been scheduled as yet. New Freedom Borough is in the permitting process.

Woodland Drive Radio Tower (SCADA)

The radio tower at the Woodland water tank was destroyed by the August storm. A 150’ radio tower was brought in from Bucks County that will replace the old tower. It will provide radio connection for the sewer system SCADA along with Emergency Operations Center communications. The tower will be installed in the spring. It will be sandblasted and then painted with a Zinc material. The sewer budget will pay for some of the preparation and installation.

Stewartstown Railroad Invoice

Supt. Sweitzer received an invoice from Omega Rail Service on November 28 for 2024 in the amount of $1,569.75. We are still waiting on clarification as to what other entities pay for crossings in Southern York County. Information has been repeatedly requested since 2019 that included information specific as to whether other municipalities in the Southern York County area were paying a yearly crossing fee to either Omega Rail or to the Railroad. Our own research showed that New Freedom Borough, Hopewell Township and Stewartstown Borough do not pay any fee to the Railroad or to Omega Rail Services. There was a verbal agreement that the Stewartstown Railroad would no longer use the services of Omega Rail Service, but yearly invoices are being received. The Authority was paying $222.00 per year under the License Agreement from 1998 and Omega Rail Service increased the yearly fee in a way that was not in accordance with the License Agreement and we are waiting on an explanation as to why this is occurring. The attorney for the Railroad stopped responding to Sol. Rehmeyer’s inquiries. The Authority is willing to negotiate in good faith if the Railroad would respond to Sol. Rehmeyer’s letters.

D. Wertz moved that since the Authority is willing to discuss the matter, has repeatedly asked for information, and since the Railroad is unresponsive, that no action be taken on the invoice received.

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

Grease Trap Records

The grease traps and oil interceptors are inspected twice a year. All businesses are compliant as of January 22. Grease traps are cleaned for $350 to 400 and the first offense fine is $500, second offense is $750 and the third offense is $1,000. Sol. Rehmeyer will look at the Resolution from 2008 and increase the fines slightly, propose supplement penalties and to include administrative time for the Public Works Department

Sewer Flow Comparison

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **YEAR** | **SHREWSBURY**  **(MGD)** | **%** | **NEW FREEDOM (MGD)** | **%** |
| 2016 | .624 | 55.1 | .508 | 44.9 |
| 2017 | .602 | 55.0 | .492 | 45.0 |
| 2018 | .796 | 54.9 | .654 | 45.1 |
| 2019 | .680 | 52.0 | .628 | 48.0 |
| 2020 | .592 | 51.2 | .564 | 48.8 |
| 2021 | .644 | 51.7 | .602 | 48.3 |
| 2022 | .667 | 50.8 | .646 | 49.2 |
| 2023 | .639 | 51.4 | .605 | 48.6 |

Sewer Capital Improvement Fee Letter

The Township will be sending a letter to the Authority customers in the Township about the unused EDUs and the new SCAP Fee. The letter will arrive approximately two weeks after our notice of the fee. The Township wants the EDUs and is willing to buy them for redistribution. There are four developments that need EDUs to move forward with their development plan.

Municipal Authority/York Water Customers

We receive billing information from the York Water Company for many of our sewer customers. There are hundreds of sewer customers that have our water meter for sewer usage and York Water meters for water usage. The duplicity was due to when we did not trust the York Water meter readings and the accuracy. The office will check for any agreement with the York Water Company. It was the consensus of the Authority that a letter be sent to the property owners that the meter that is read by the Public Works Department to calculate their sewer bill will no longer be needed and since the property owner owns the meter, it is up to them if they want to remove or keep the meter. Reads will be obtained from the York Water Company. Sol. Rehmeyer will draft a letter with the help of the office and Supt. Sweitzer.

J. Hoover moved that the meter that is being read to calculate the sewer bill where there is also a York Water Company meter be no longer read and it’s up to the property owner if they want to keep the meter in place or have it removed by their own plumber at their expense.

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

Railroad Borough One Call Markings

The Municipal Authority approved locating Railroad Borough’s sewer line on a per hour basis at the December meeting. Sol. Rehmeyer is constructing an Agreement with Railroad Borough to locate its utilities on One Call tickets. We have not received any mapping for the utilities. Railroad Borough sewer lines connect into the Authority’s sewer lines at many locations.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Eng. Brenneman stated the owners of the former True Value site have submitted a plan to the Township for multi-use buildings. The existing building will be used for a Harbor Freight store, possible paint store, possible small retail use, and indoor/outdoor self-storage. No new sewer connections are proposed.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Taken earlier.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

To clarify the two Borough EDUs from Steel Farm that Doug Hollins owns now, if Mr. Hollins decides to relinquish any EDUs, the two from the Borough would be the first to be relinquished.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

T. Nadobny moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

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

Prepared by Cindy L. Bosley, Recording Secretary