

MEETING OF September 20, 2021

The regular meeting of the Danville Municipal Authority was held at the Danville Borough Hall, on Monday, September 20, 2021. Present were Pete Rickert, Dick Blosky, Mike Kuziak, and Betty Ann Moyer, together with their Solicitors, Robert L. Marks, Esquire and Michael P. Dennehy, Esquire. Also present was Shannon Berkey, Borough Manager, and Brindy Mordan. Special Guest was Jim and Jackie Shutt.

Minutes of the meeting of June 21, 2021, were approved as published on Motion of Dick Bloskey and seconded by Donald Lutz. MOTION CARRIED

Pete Rickert took a moment to recognize our newest Authority Member Mike Kuziak.

The Authority also took a moment to recognize H. James Shutt who has served on the Authority for many years with a plaque and a luncheon to follow the meeting. In attendance with Mr. Shutt was his wife, Jackie.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Steve Spotts addressed the Authority with regard to a few questions and concerns regarding the water meters and base rates. His understanding is that there will be a rate study done and once that is completed that the new rates will be determined after that.

He wanted to confirm that the current monthly base rate for sewer is 27,000 gallons. Shannon Berkey stated that information was correct. He also wanted to know if the sewer rate will be based upon the consumption of water or a base rate. Shannon stated that there will be a fixed minimum rate.

Mr. Spotts has apartment units in Danville and some of the occupants are single individuals and others are family. His concern is that he does not think it is right for a single occupant to have the same rates and a family occupant. He wanted to suggest that they be charged accordingly to their individual usage.

Mr. Spotts also explained that he has a 1-unit duplex with two separate apartment units within. In the past he was billed two separate water/sewer bills. How will he now be charged under the new rates.

Shannon, took his phone number and told him that they would get back to him directly regarding his concerns as the rate study progresses.

WATER:

The financial reports submitted by the Borough for the month of August 2021 were reviewed. The expenditures for the operation of the water plant were \$230,752.31. After

discussion, on Motion of Betty Ann Moyer, and seconded by Dick Blosky, the Borough is to be paid the sum of \$230,752.31, and accept the Financial Report as submitted. MOTION CARRIED

Superintendent's Report:

No action required at this time. The written report contained the flow report and outlined various line repairs over the past few weeks.

Borough Manager's Report:

Shannon Berkey requested payment for Contract #1 Payment #10 for the filter project in the amount of \$33,558.27. A Motion was made by Dick Blosky and seconded by Betty Ann Moyer, to pay Contract #1, Payment #10 in the amount of \$33,558.27. MOTION CARRIED

Shannon wanted to discuss the draft addendum with Suez with the Authority. Their current agreement with us allocated 765,000 gallons per day, they are asking that agreement to increase to 1 million gallons per day. She believes the reason that Suez is currently asking for the amendment is because they are currently applying for an extension with DEP for their treatment, and DEP is wanting them to make sure they have a secondary source available. She had some discussion with the contact person for Suez and said that she didn't believe that would be an issue, but the increase would come at a cost to them. Shannon went back and looked at the numbers, and we are currently in the third year of the current contract with Suez. Throughout the 3 years in that current contract their required draw from our system has decreased drastically. They went from paying us \$275,000 a year to now paying \$70,000 a year. So, one idea was for that contract in that schedule to revert back to year one, so that we were back in line to where we first started with that agreement. If they revert back that first year, that would put \$140,000 into our budget. Suez said they would be happy to stay at year three where they currently are. We also had in our agreement that we may also be interested in "checking the box" for our secondary source of water. Suez said they would consider establishing a 2-way connection and share 50% in that cost up to \$250,000. The estimated cost to do that connection would be around \$200,000.

Suez indicated that they want to stay at the current year three of the contract schedule. Shannon informed them that this would need to be discussed with the Authority. Shannon summed it up by saying, should Danville have a new customer, who wanted to increase by 235,000 gallons per day, it would cost that new customer 3 million dollars.

After much discussion between the members, it was suggested that Shannon go back and counter their offer by reference to the 3-million-dollar calculation, and report back to the Authority.

Next, Shannon prepared a draft of the Fire Hydrant Use Policy for the Authority members to review. After some discussion, Shannon will present the final draft to the Authority at the next meeting for approval.

SEWER:

Financial Report:

A Motion was made by Betty Ann Moyer, and seconded by Dick Blosky to pay the Borough the total disbursement of \$261,781.15 for the month of August 2021. MOTION CARRIED

Mike Kuziak asked some questions as to how certain expense were reflected on the monthly summary provided to the Authority, and whether any expense categories were reflected differently on water vs. sewer. Shannon Berkey explained what expenses were included under what headings.

Superintendent's Report:

Shannon reviewed the Superintendent's Report for the month of August submitted by Jane Graham. No action requested at this time as it was an information report only.

The one notable item, however, that there is a meeting with Riverside at 1:30 p.m. this afternoon, which Jane will also be present for. The main issue is that they need to address their issues at their pump station and Jane has some ideas on how they may be able to do that.

Borough Manager's Report:

No action items at this time.

Engineer's Report for Water/Sewer:

Water Treatment Plant Dewatering Project – we believe that the construction will be completed by mid-October 2021.

Dewatering Design Project – That is currently in progress and Tia had a conversation with Jane prior to coming here. They are trying to make a decision on the dumping area. They are working currently on the permitting with PPL right-of-way, which she believes will be difficult.

Fisher Court – Sewer extension project and they are currently finishing that design and we received the GEO report on the same. There is contamination on that property and they need to make decisions on how they plan on handling that prior to construction. The concern is the ground water. They discussed the diesel tank and recommended trying to contact COSTARs however, there was no one available. We did receive three quotes at the end of July. They are currently trying to get an update to make sure they are still accurate. We recommend going with the contractor that is still available and tie that up as soon as possible.

Act 537 – They are currently working on a response to the comments and will issue those comments to all parties involved. Resolutions signed before the end of the comment period will need to be re-signed. They all want to ensure that all capital projects for the sewer system planned for the next 10 years are captured in this plan.

Sewer/Wastewater Annual Services – An annual inspection was done on July 27, 2021 and it was reported that the plant is in very good condition. They are currently working on the Inspection Report.

Water Annual Services – A proposal was provided for the rate study.

A Motion was made by Betty Ann Moyer and seconded by Dick Blosky, to approve Gannett's proposal for the rate study and move forward. MOTION CARRIED

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Shannon had two more items to discuss:

The 1668 Upper Street issue – They did an investigation with regard to Rita Roberts ongoing issues. They extended the 2-inch main on Upper Street and they are going to add an automatic blow off as soon as it comes in. They increased her service line from her box to the main line from a 3/4 inch to a 1 inch which should also help. The pressure was tested at the connection point and there was 20 PSI at that time, which we are required to have. Solicitor Marks suggested that Shannon send a letter to Ms. Roberts detailing everything that we have done to improve her pressure issues at her residence.

The 347 Walnut Street issue – They did samples to see if the water on the surface is treated water or not. The area in question is normally wet and this area may have a natural run going through it. The neighboring property is a rental and they are trying to get in touch to see if they are having the same issues. They may have to tie into the sewer for the cold months to eliminate the issue, however, they are still investigating.

Budget Dates – The Authority Members suggested October 25th and Oct 27th as possible dates for the budget meeting.

There being no further business, a Motion to Adjourn was made by Betty Ann Moyer and seconded by Dick Blosky. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

