

MEETING OF August 21, 2023

The regular meeting of the Danville Municipal Authority was held at the Danville Borough Hall, on Monday, August 21, 2023. Present were Pete Rickert, Dick Blosky, Mike Kuziak, Donald Lutz, and Joshua Seidel along with their Solicitor, Michael P. Dennehy, Esquire. Also present was Brindy Mordan, Borough Manager, Brad Horne, Water Superintendent, Jane Graham, Sewer Superintendent. Guests included Dennis Leighow, Matthew Dooley, and Tom Marks.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Green Thumb Industries (GTI) - Matthew Dooley from Green Thumb Industries (GTI), was present to request relief of the tapping fees, or if a reduction is possible, on their new addition to their operation. Mr. Dooley pointed out the number of jobs that they brought to the Danville area. GTI does not disagree with the calculation of the amount due, they just wanted relief from the fees.

Dennis Leighow – Addressed the Authority regarding notice to him when the property has a leak. He wanted to know if there was anyway for them to get notification to the landlord quicker as he was under the impression that this new system would detect leaks quicker.

Brindy stated that it does detect the leaks and reports go out in 48 hours. However, in order to provide “real time” reports, it would cost the Borough \$50,000 to set up, and an annual fee of \$8,000. She suggested that along with the Consumption Report she sends, she could also send him an additional report that might help.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Meeting of July 17, 2023 were approved as published on Motion of Don Lutz and seconded by Joshua Seidel. MOTION CARRIED

WATER:

Green Thumb Industries (GTI) – It was noted that in 2020 GTI previously acknowledged that they were aware that tapping fees would be assessed if their water usage exceeded the amount previously allowed to TRW when they owned the building. GTI has been way over, quarter after quarter, so tapping fees are due. GTI didn’t ask for relief from other utilities, and probably wouldn’t get that either. The Authority members said we have to apply the rules equally to all customers. The request for relief from tapping fees was not granted.

Superintendent's Report:

No actionable items at this time.

Financial Report:

The financial reports submitted by the Borough for the month of July 1, 2023 July 31, 2023 were reviewed. The expenditures for the operation of the water plant were \$193,243.12 for July 2023.

A Motion to approve the financial reports and expenditures for the operation of the water plant in the amount of \$193,243.12 for July 2023 was made by Dick Blosky and seconded by Donald Lutz. MOTION CARRIED

Borough Manager's Report:

Water: No actionable items at this time.

SEWER:

Financial Report:

The financial reports submitted by the Borough for the month of July 1, 2023 through July 31, 2023. The expenditures for the operation of the sewer plant were \$371,125.07 for July 2023.

A Motion to approve the financial reports and expenditures for the operation of the sewer plant in the amount of \$371,125.07 for July 2023 was made by Donal Lutz and seconded by Dick Blosky. MOTION CARRIED

Superintendent's Report:

The Authority reviewed the Agreement with Riverside. Jane explained that the main issue at this point with Riverside is that their engineer has not looked at the system since 1970. In conjunction with Brindy's report a new generator is needed in the amount of \$120,000 to which Riverside was informed of on January 19, 2023. Jane recommended that Danville Municipal Authority either walk away at the end of the year or upcharge Riverside accordingly in the new Agreement. The Authority members will make a final decision prior to December 2023.

A Motion was made to accept Jane's report by Joshua Seidel and seconded by Mike Kuziak. MOTION CARRIED

Borough Manager's Report:

- **Riverside Pump Station Services & Sampling Agreements** – Already discussed above under Sewer Superintendent's report. In addition, open a conversation with Riverside to see if there is any interest in taking over their system. Brindy will draft a new Agreement at a higher price for 1 year.
- **Valley Sampling Agreement** – Extend the Agreement and keep cost in place until we close.
- **Wastewater Addendum w/Veolia** – They asked for an Addendum as six units were added. There is no issue, however, a new contract may need to be updated. Please note the request for the Addendum was made by Brindy and the contract will be updated with Veolia information.

Other Items Under Borough Manager:

- **Amendments to Rules and Regulations** – Final review and approval 9/18/23.
 - a. Additional proposed Changes
 1. Procedure for Notifying Delinquent Customers – In regard to Step #2, change 30 days to 10 days.
 2. Drought Plan – Change the address throughout to 463 Mill Street, Danville, PA 17821. Also, clarification that the Borough will only be involved with this procedure in the Borough. All other matters regarding the Drought shall be handled by the Municipal Authority. The Borough will not be involved with the Drought Plan.
- **Friendship Fire Company Car Wash Exemption** – After discussion amongst the Authority the request was denied. The Authority members agreed that no exemptions will be made moving forward.
- **GTI Tapping Fees** – Already discussed.

Engineer's Report for Water/Sewer:

There was discussion regarding the Act 537 and that it is ongoing. Solicitor Dennehy instructed Brindy to contact Tia Trate and let her know that the Authority expects to see this at our next meeting scheduled in September.

Brindy also made mention of continuous mistakes made by Gannett and then they bill us for additional work. The mistakes made are theirs not ours. Gannett seems to be overcharging

the Authority as well. The Authority discussed putting out the Engineer services for bid as projects come up. We would move forward, after our current engineering contract with Gannett ends on December 31, 2023, by not having a regularly retained engineer, but purchasing engineering services on a project-to-project basis. We would continue to pay Gannett to complete pending projects. They would be free to propose their services on future projects, but we would also invite proposals from other engineer firms.

Solicitor Dennehy suggested Brindy add it to the Agenda for September to give Notice to Gannett Fleming if they would have any response to our concerns and plan.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Brad Horne advised that the project on Lower Street will be started. Mahoning Township did advertise a requested for rezoning above Sidler Hill. After some discussion, it as decided to inform Mahoning that if the area is rezoned, they will have to pay for new infrastructure in order to accommodate residents.

There was additional discussion regarding Sunny Brook. The pool is filled from the creek water next to the area. However, there had been an issue with regard to water being released back into the stream after the summer season was over. Josh suggested having Jane and her department check out the area where the discharge is.

A Motion to Adjourn was made by Donald Lutz and seconded by Dick Blosky.
MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary