

DATE: Wednesday, August 25, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Womelsdorf-Robeson Joint Authority was held Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Womelsdorf Borough Hall.

Please be advised that to assist the Secretary in the preparation of minutes, the Secretary records the meeting. The recording is deleted after the minutes are prepared and no permanent recording is kept by the Secretary.

The following members were present:

Randy Gartner	Ralph Honigmann	Steve Bright
Mark Spotts	Barbara Orth	Rod Lebo

Jack Morris was absent.

Engineer David Bright, Solicitor Jestyn Payne, Bruce Weaver and Dennis Miller (Authority Operators) were also in attendance.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge to the Flag of the USA.

Visitors: Steven Goodhue from Edward Jones attended to talk with us about investing and getting better rates. His branch specializes in municipal operating funds. He distributed examples to treasurer and solicitor. Solicitor will have his staff email to the board. Mr. Goodhue stated that we would receive a lot more interest through his company than through the bank. After Mr. Goodhue's presentation and discussion by the board a motion was made by Mark Spotts and seconded by Steve Bright to allow the treasurer and solicitor to work with Mr. Goodhue on how to invest our money. Motion carried. The board will then decide how much money to invest. Engineer recommended the board will have to come up with planning expenses because money may be tied up in investments.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, July 28, 2021 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mark Spotts, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

Read correspondence – None

Sent Correspondence: Email to Womelsdorf Borough Secretary regarding posting agenda per Act 65, Letter to A Montgomery regarding address change (letter returned – will return original letter from GM back to GM), Jim Cox letter regarding Senate Bill 597 (Engineer thought bill was removed from the table and later verified.)

Treasurer's Report:

1. The Treasurer's Report showing a balance of \$2,109,142.84 was approved on a motion by Barbara Orth, seconded by Steve Bright. Unanimously approved.
2. Bills in the amount of \$26,955.32 were presented for payment, which was ratified or approved on motion by Barbara Orth, seconded by Steve Bright. Motion was unanimous.
3. Treasurer dropped off documents at auditor.
4. Glenn Eberly will be terminating electric on August 31, 2021 at 318 S Sheridan house since they moved. Ralph called PPL to change to WRJA starting September 1, 2021. Will now use the house as an office and restroom facility for operators. What about insurance since no one is living there? Solicitor will call Ruth to inquire. Treasurer stated that Glenn told him T&T Sanitation is cheaper (\$75/quarter) than GFL (\$121.50/quarter). Steve Bright made a

motion to switch to T&T Sanitation. Mark Spotts seconded and was unanimously approved by the board.

Engineer's Report:

1. 2021 Water Improvement Project: AH Moyer had a preconstruction job conference. Availability of delivery of materials is out to mid-March 2022. Might do tunneling under 422 in the meantime.
2. WAWA Consultant: Received sketch plan. Requested plan review fee.
3. The Authority Magazine: Bruce and Dennis found the original 1957 PMAA magazine. Because Engineer contacted PMAA they will likely put an article in future magazines asking for archives.
4. Tank: Got quote from MBA. Now hearing our tanks were inspected not long ago. Chairman will send engineer information on inspection done 2 years ago.

Solicitor's Report:

1. Strickler: Researched – had 2 paving projects. First at 200 N Robeson Street and second several patch jobs in both boroughs. Went out for informal bids and got quotes from Hackman – 1 bid for both projects of \$29,241. Folk Paving – 2 separate bids: N Robeson \$14,245, Patching \$8,415, total \$22,660. Strickler – 2 separate bids: N Robeson \$4,750, Patching \$8,190, total \$13,111. Awarded project to Strickler. They did the work and sent us a bill for \$14,375 which was slightly over their quote, but we paid. We later received another bill for \$12,940 that would bring total amount for 2 projects for \$27,300. Where did this additional invoice come from? Solicitor called Strickler and noted they did not put the quantities in their quote which was an error. Do we have the legal authority to pay the other invoice (and later received a 3rd invoice) seeing that their quote was \$13,111. Bruce confirmed that Strickler was aware of the 6" base. It was noted that their quotes are hard to read. Do we have old quotes from them? Do they normally do this (not put the quantities in)? Going forward maybe we need a better procedure and should have our own forms. That way, everyone bids the same. Chairman recommends not paying any more than what we already paid. Motion made by Mark Spotts to direct our Solicitor to tell Strickler we paid them \$14,375 and we request the return of \$1,264 for the overpayment according to your quote and we are not paying anymore. Rod Lebo seconded. Motion carried and Steve Bright abstained.
2. Audit: Still waiting
3. LAO: Mr. Levengood signed agreement. Will get document notarized when Mr. Levengood returns from vacation.
4. Paper Street: West Road abandoned lot. Court requires tax ID number. Asking assessment office to assign ID number. Then we can file papers.
5. Michalowski: Have not heard anything yet. Will be cooperative but they must work with adjoining property owners.
6. Keener: Released collateral for Furnace Village. Bruce noted there is 1 extra water service on the end. If Phase II moves ahead will have to post new bond.
7. Lebanon County Tax Sale: Nothing that is served by WRJA. Berks County should come out in September.
8. Recreational Use Signs: There were changes made in color and the material used for signs (synthetic). This is more economical and should last longer. We should revisit this every 5 years or so and see if rules need to be changed. Barb Orth made a motion to have signs printed by Quality Signs. Ralph Honigmann seconded. Unanimously approved.
9. Agenda: When publishing agenda should address anything we're going to spend money on or the subject of deliberation by this board. To what extent must Engineer and Solicitor put information on agenda? Will do our best to be compliant. Agenda must be posted 24 hours before a meeting. Will learn more going forward.

10. Expenditures: What kind of expenditures must come to this board? Thought we previously talked about this. Need to create a policy.

Operator's Report:

1. Meters are read and bills are out.
2. We got both tanks done with pressure washing.
3. Tower health tie in is done and pressure test was good, and they are online. They need extension for hydrant.
4. The water main improvements could be awhile due to the pipe supply and orders being so far out.
5. Stonecroft development has 212 homes and Zimmerman did all the yards. Board discussed and it was agreed to advise Zimmerman to cease and desist using WRJA hydrants to water lawns in Stonecroft development. It was agreed on a motion by Steve Bright, seconded by Rod Lebo to bill them \$500 for water usage and not to do this in the future without our permission. Motion carried.

Chairman's Report:

Interesting seeing the 1957 PMAA Authorities magazine since we knew many of those on the WRJA Authority board at that time.

Other Board Member Comments:

Ralph Honigmann: Minimum Municipal Obligation: Board looked at on August 28, 2021. Motion by Steve Bright authorizing Ralph to send in since board reviewed. Seconded by Barb Orth. Motion carried.

Chairman: should put fire and burglar alarms in house at 318 S Sheridan. Bruce to research.

Chairman: Per Mark bikers would like to meet with Randy and Mark. Randy said Tuesday's work for him. Mark will reach out to them to set up.

Mark Spotts: Will send out private link to board regarding new website. Please let him know your thoughts.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 7PM at the Womelsdorf Borough Hall.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:28 p.m. by Barbara Orth, seconded by Ralph Honigmann. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Orth
Secretary