

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY
Regular Business Meeting
Wednesday, September 5, 2018

The regular business meeting of the Summit Township Water Authority was called to order by Chairman Kupetz at 6:00 p.m., followed by a salute to the flag. Present were Authority members Kurtz, Haaf and Bickel. Also present were Solicitor Blakely, Manager Troutman and Recording Secretary Taylor. Vice Chairman Lacey and Engineer Maas were absent and there were twenty five people in the audience.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Bickel, seconded by Haaf, to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2018 Regular Business Meeting as presented, having been reviewed by all Board members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VOTE: 4/0

Motion by Haaf, seconded by Kurtz, to approve the August Treasurer's Report, as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF
TREASURER'S REPORT**

VOTE: 4/0

Motion by Haaf, seconded by Kurtz, that said amounts be drawn upon the treasury for payment of the August 2018 expenses.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

VOTE: 4/0

Bob Sokolowski, 8511 Oliver Road, stated that he is still getting a little bit of brown water and that only four days in the last three months has been clear. Mr. Sokolowski also mentioned that when the hydrant by his house was flushed, very little water was coming out and recommended a harder flush in an attempt to remove the sediment in the water mains.

**RESIDENTS' CONCERNS
REGARDING INTERMITTENT
DIRTY WATER**

Manager Troutman responded by saying that in the beginning, dirty water was the result of waterline breaks and repairs and the Lord Corporation performing their mandatory fire line tests. When this happened, hydrants were flushed immediately and the water was back to normal usually that same day. When it became apparent that the water was not clearing up as it did in the past, samples were taken which led to the discovery of high iron and manganese levels. As a result, a sequestering agent called Smart-Phos was added a couple of months ago to help with corrosion/scale control, however it can take between two and six months to reach maximum effectiveness. Troutman also mentioned that he has been working closely with the DEP and a specialist from PA Rural Water Association. The DEP collected samples and confirmed they were ok and does not recommend a hard flush at this time because the water is finally starting to clear.

David Ostrowski, 2815 Chelsie Drive, was hoping to ask the Authority's engineer what the real problem is with the water. Ostrowski asked the Board what our engineer is doing to help resolve this situation. The Board assured Mr. Ostrowski that the engineer has been working diligently with the Authority by suggesting different options to try. Still unhappy with the ongoing intermittent dirty water and the inconvenience it causes, Ostrowski stated that the next time he has dirty water he plans to stay in a hotel and have the Authority pay for it. He also asked to the Board to get another engineer's opinion. Chairman Kupetz reiterated that they have already consulted with the DEP and a specialist from PA Rural Water Association.

Bob Spaulding, 2644 Saddlewood Drive, showed the Board water samples he collected over a week's time and mentioned that the water seems to be good in some areas but bad in others and agreed with the idea of doing a hard flush to clear the water lines of sediment.

John Hanke, 2636 Saddlewood Drive, questioned whether the water is flowing in the right direction now and if so, why it is still discolored. Troutman explained that discoloration is the result of high chlorine levels mixing with manganese. The Authority has been working to lower the chlorine levels but still keeping it within the acceptable range.

Dave Wiley, 2640 Saddlewood Drive, commented that although the recent water samples are not bad, that is still not good enough. The water needs to be clean. He also mentioned higher than normal bills resulting from all the extra flushing he has done to clear the dirty water from within his home. Manager Troutman offered flushing out Mr. Wiley's internal system without being metered. The same offer was made to all other residents who request so.

Randy Hunsberger, 2620 Saddlewood Drive, mentioned that he has had intermittent dirty water for over ten years but it is worse now. While he is appreciative of all the help offered by Troutman and the field crew, it does not change the fact that the filters in his house get dirty in two days and are expensive to replace all the time. Hunsberger acknowledged not only his expenses but that of all the residents who have suffered damages such as filters, clothing and more. As a consideration for such, Randy asked the Board to waive the customer service charge, retroactive one quarter or until the problem is resolved. Discussion ensued.

Al Richards, 2610 Saddlewood Drive, restated the comments made by other residents that although the problem is better, it is still not perfect and expects a resolution to the problem.

Mary Kay Nies, 2619 Saddlewood Drive, asked if the chemical being added is a band aid fix and how long will it remain in the system. Manager Troutman stated that it is not a chemical but rather a non-harmful solution to be added long term. Mary Kay then asked if the Authority tests for lead. Troutman explained that thirty samples are taken every three years and that all previous samples have come back good.

Discussion ensued over the possibility of doing a hard flush. Residents expressed concern about the loss of water and who would be affected. Manager Troutman explained that nobody would be without water but low pressure may be experienced. Since not all areas would be flushed at the same time, only people in the area being flushed will be affected. Randy Hunsberger asked if the Authority will be able to create enough turbulence needed to remove the sediment in the bottom of the lines. Troutman responded yes.

Carol Davison, 8645 Preakness Circle, asked if the Lord Corporation can be fined for creating these dirty water situations. Attorney Blakely indicated that the PA statute that controls authorities does not have the power to levy fines but the DEP probably could if it violates water standards. However, since the water was never contaminated, most likely nothing can be done.

In other business, motion by Kurtz, seconded by Bickel, to adopt the final budget for fiscal year ending August 31, 2019.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET

VOTE: 4/0

Motion by Kurtz, seconded by Bickel, approving a Developer's Agreement for the Trails at Five Points Phase 7 Project which will consist of extending the 8" main to serve a total of seven homes.

APPROVAL OF DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT FOR TRAIL AT FIVE POINTS PHASE 7

VOTE: 4/0

Regarding the status of the South Tower painting project, work cannot be done until the inside water temperature matches the outside air temperature and Presque Isle Downs horse racing shuts down for the season so water levels can be lowered. Work is expected to commence the week of October 8th, weather permitting.

**PROJECT UPDATE:
SOUTH TANK PAINTING**

With no further business to come before the Authority, motion by Bickel, seconded by Haaf, to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTE: 4/0

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Taylor
Recording Secretary
9/11/2018