

**The Municipal Authority of The Borough of Berlin
700 North Street, Berlin, PA 15530**

Regular Meeting

September 11, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

Approved and Official Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Chairman C. Scott Miller

Council Attending:

C. Scott Miller - Present

Bryan Walker - Present

Charles Rhodes Present

Marshal Engleka – Present

Dale Miller – Present

Other Attending – Gary Leister, The EADS Group, and Traci Horning, Municipal Authority Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Gary Leister gave an update on the various things being done.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project with the PA Small Water & Sewer Grant. Project includes replacement of twelve (12) plug valves, one (1) sluice gate, construction of a 16' X 34' canopy over the sludge dumpster. VFD replacement handled separately. Plan to advertise September 16, 2024. Pre-Bid Meeting October 7, 2024, at the Borough Building. Bid Opening October 21, 2024, at the Borough Building. Notice of Award within 30 days of opening bids. Notice to proceed will negotiate with contractor may postpone until spring of 2025 due to lead times and weather.

The Water Production Well Site Study. Construction meeting held September 5, 2024, to review preliminary findings. Areas of interest identified on Authority owned property to North and South of Whitehorse Road and within the Ohio River Basin. Target area is South of Whitehorse Road approximately 3,600 feet from chlorination and storage facilities. Need to complete VLF geophysics field study which will pinpoint the test site. Results should be ready in a month or so.

Wastewater Treatment Plant talked about controlling the fecal which is done by chlorination. May want to do a complete plant evaluation and assemble a larger plant upgrade project. A single larger project from a funding standpoint is better than doing smaller continuous repair projects.

Grant opportunities were presented to the council. Section 313 funding US Army Corps of Engineering no application deadline and Local Share Account (LSA) application deadline is November 30, 2024.

GIS system needs to be submitted to Tyler at EADS by end of September to give enough time to prepare the report to be submitted to DEP by October 14, 2024 for the copper and lead of all water taps on the water system.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Bryan Walker, to approve the August 14, 2024, Municipal Authority minutes. Motion carried.

Chet Cyga was not present to give an update.

MIDCO Diving & Marine Services provided the service to clean the reservoir water tanks August 16 to 19, 2024.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Dale Miller, to approve the invoice from Midco Diving & Marine Services of PO Box 513, Rapid City, SD 57709 to clean and inspect the water reservoirs, and provide a full written report and video for each reservoir in the amount of \$17,190.00. Motion carried.

Snyder of Berlin Lagoon results and the WWTP Effluent Lab Results up to August 13, 2024, has been presented to the board.

Snyders data for DAF is being sent to Chet and he responds to the emails.

Berlin Water and Wastewater To Do List was last updated on September 11, 2024.

Daily Water Withdrawal/Instream Flow Requirement for the Municipal Authority had an average of 54,382 gallons of water a day for the month of August 2024.

The wastewater treatment plant roof is scheduled to be replaced today September 11, 2024 will take about 3 days to finish.

2nd Avenue between Washington Street and North Street needs to have the main water line replaced. The current water line pipe in there is deteriorated and keeps leaking. Need to set a date to start replacing the water line pipe. Will need to do two sample sites to determine what type of water line going to tap into to connect the new water line.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Bryan Walker, to approve Michael Fogle to start working on 2nd Avenue between Washington Street and North Street to replace the main water line. Need to do sample sites. Motion carried.

A discussion among the councilman about the water and sewer tap fee to be raised has been decided to raise them both. Increased prices will take effect September 11, 2024.

Motion by Charles Rhodes, seconded by Bryan Walker, to approve the increase of the water connection (tap) fee to \$2,000 per water tap. The curb box and tap will be included in the \$2,000. Effective September 11, 2024. Motion carried.

Motion by Charles Rhodes, seconded by Bryan Walker, to approve the increase of the sewer connection (tap) fee to \$2,000 per sewage tap. Effective September 11, 2024. Motion carried.

Motioned by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Charles Rhodes to approve the quote from Levi's Custom Detailing 1043 Walker School Road, Berlin, PA for blasting, primer and paint entry point roof in the amount of \$529.99. Motion carried.

Craig Fencing, LLC 300 E. 6th Avenue, Altoona, PA will be coming in September to repair the main gate which needs a gate latch and four gate hinges. Will need to re-tie and re-attach chain link fence to the framework and repair existing 180LF barb wire where needed.

Handed out to council the information from the PA Department of Environmental Protection Operator Certification Program to become a certified water or wastewater system operator.

Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission sent a letter to attend a public meeting September 26, 2024 from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Somerset Church of the Brethren, 606 Berlin Plank Road, Somerset, PA in regards to the Allegheny Mountain Realignment Project, Milepost 121 to Milepost 126 in Stonycreek and Allegheny Townships, Somerset County.

DCED Annual Report for August 1, 2021, to July 31, 2022, is due. Beer Ream & Co. is currently working on this report and getting submitted.

Beer Ream & Co. is currently working on the 2020-2021 audit.

Pennwood Farms has a contract with the Municipal Authority for water that is supplied by a private line. The contracted amount is 20,000 gallons a day to use for the cows. Water usage is being monitored.

Scurfield private water line that supplies water to residents at 311 and 382 Weighley Mill Road is being monitored for the usage amount going through the master meter and the usage at the two residents.

Waiting on D. Mason to pay \$1,500 water tap fee for Airbnb. Need to do a letter and send an invoice for the water tap fee.

Motioned by Dale Miller, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the Treasurers Report for the period of August 14, 2024, to September 11, 2024. Motion carried.

Motion by Charles Rhodes, seconded by Marshal Engleka, to approve payment of pending and previously paid bills of the general fund, water system, and sanitary sewer system for the period of August 14, 2024, to September 11, 2024. Motion carried.

Motion by Charles Rhodes, seconded by Bryan Walker to approve the Somerset Trust Special Certifications of Deposit Notice of Certificate of Maturity September 26, 2024 at six months and 4.19% of one account and a total of three hundred thousand dollars plus interest to be put into Certifications of Deposit. Motion carried.

The next Regular Meeting of the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Berlin is scheduled for October 9, 2024, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

At 8:55 P.M. a motion was made by Bryan Miller, seconded by Dale Miller to adjourn this meeting. Motion carried.

Traci Horning

Submitted By: Traci Horning, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer